

LONDON WEEKLY NEWS & Hammersmith CHRONICLE



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50% cut threat to council housing

BY JACK DIXON

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HAMMERSMITH and Fulham Council's social housing stock could be cut in half if government plans to sell off thousands of council homes are forced through, a leading charity has warned.

A new analysis by Shelter, the housing and homelessness charity, forecasts that the council will be forced to sell more than 6,000 homes – 50.3 per cent of its total stock – as they become vacant.

According to Shelter's report – 'The Forced Council Home Sell-Off' – Hammersmith and Fulham will lose its high-value homes at a rate of 131 a year.

The Government has indicated that forcing councils to sell off housing assets will fund the proposed extension of its Right to Buy scheme.

Campbell Robb, Shelter's chief executive, said: "At a time when millions of families are struggling to find somewhere affordable to live, plans to sell off large swathes of the few genuinely affordable homes we have left are only going to make things worse."

The policy was in the Tories' manifesto before the election: "We will fund the replacement of properties sold under the extended Right to Buy by requiring local authorities to manage their housing assets more efficiently, with the most expensive properties sold off and replaced as they fall vacant."



■ **ROYAL WELCOME:** Prince William paid a royal visit to Hammersmith Academy this week to support an anti-bullying campaign set up in memory of his mother, Diana Princess of Wales. The Duke of Cambridge met 50 pupils from across London at the school on Monday afternoon to take part in a training session about online bullying and LGBT issues. The scheme is part of the Diana Award programme, offering training to students, staff and parents in order to help them tackle bullying in their communities. During the visit, the Duke also spoke to members of the Diana Award anti-bullying ambassador youth board. There are currently more than 16,000 ambassadors trained by the Diana Award working in 3,000 schools across the UK and Ireland. **REPORT & PICTURES NEXT WEEK**

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Queen's big bash**



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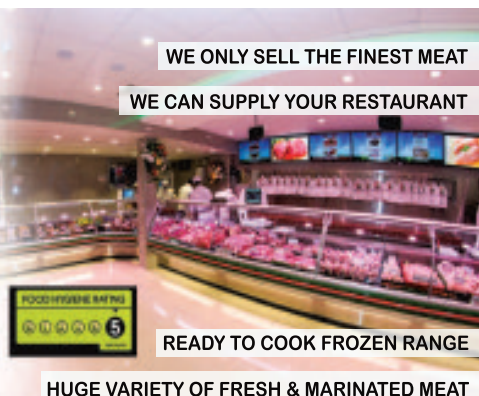
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THE paper serving the **HEART** of London

MET MAKES MAJOR STRIDES WITH LONDON-ONLY DIVERSITY POLICY

Police better reflect communities they serve

THE Mayor of London has welcomed the positive effect of the Met Police's London only recruitment policy.

In just one year the new approach has already seen the number of recruits from minority ethnic backgrounds more than double, and female recruits increase from a quarter to a third. The policy is helping to boost the diversity of talent in London's police force, making it more resilient and far more reflective of the city it serves.

London is a unique and richly diverse metropolis, where more than 40 per cent of the population is from black or ethnic minority backgrounds. Since August 2014 new police constables have been recruited exclusively from people who have lived in London for three of the last six years, to help create a police force that understands the city's diversity and is equipped with the skills and cultural competencies necessary to police a great global city.

In the last three months, June to August, 26 per cent of new Met officer recruits came from BME background, up from 12 per cent in the same quarter of 2014. The percentage of female recruits has also risen from 26 to 33 per cent of new



FROM THE
MAYOR'S
OFFICE

recruits in the same period.

The Met now has more BME officers than ever before, and the largest proportion of ethnic minority officers in England and Wales. Almost 12 per cent of Met officers are from BME backgrounds, up from just three per cent 15 years ago, and significantly higher than other large cities such as Greater Manchester and Merseyside, whose BME officers represent

five per cent and 3.4 per cent of the forces respectively.

Boris Johnson revealed the latest statistics during his Mayor's Question Time meeting at City Hall on September 16. He said: "London is one of the most diverse and culturally rich cities in the world, and it is vital our police force is fully equipped to understand and represent each and

every one of our many communities. This bold new approach, to boost the diversity of talent in the new ranks, with officers who really understand the people of London, is starting to pay off. Our new officers are helping the Met to become more reflective of London as a whole and leading the way in creating the force we need to tackle 21st century crime and protect Londoners for many years to come."

Crime continues to fall in the capital, down around 20 per cent since 2012 across seven key neighbourhood crimes, and the Mayor and the Met have maintained police officer numbers at around 32,000. 5,000 new police constables will have been recruited by April 2016.

Deputy Commissioner Craig Mackey said: "Recruiting a workforce that looks and feels more like London is a priority for us. It has not been easy, but these figures show we are making good progress in convincing people from all of the capital's communities that a career in the Met is for them and that they have a real part to play in making their city safer. We recognise we still have much more to do before we are truly representative but introducing the London residency criteria has made a real difference and en-

sures that our newest officers have an understanding of the city they police even before they hit the streets."

■ Out of 495 officers recruited in the most recent quarter (June, July and August) of 2015, 128 were from BME backgrounds. In the same quarter of 2014, 82 officers out of 677 new recruits were from BME backgrounds.

■ Of the 495 officers recruited in the most recent quarter (June, July and August) of 2015, 164 were female. In the same quarter of 2014 175 officers out of 677 were female.

■ From August 1 2014, only candidates who have lived in Greater London for three of the last six years are eligible to apply to the Metropolitan Police at entry level.

■ The process to become a new police constable can take between 6-12 months from expression of interest to the commencement of training.

■ The Mayor and the Met set out the shared ambition to create a police force that reflects the city it serves in the Mayor of London's Police and Crime Plan 2013-16. It can be viewed here: www.london.gov.uk/priorities/policing-crime/police-and-crime-plan



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Come up with a colour for bridge

COMMUNITY leaders are encouraging suggestions for a new colour scheme for Hammersmith Bridge.

In a recent bulletin, Tom Ryland, the chairman of the Hammersmith Society, said there was an opportunity to change the colour – currently green – during closures planned to take place next year.

It is understood that the bridge will be closed for structural works – including repainting and relighting – during the summer 2016.

Mr Ryland said: “The Hammersmith Society Committee feel that there is an opportunity to revisit both the colour and the lighting, and that an exciting way to explore possibilities would be for an open competition. We would be happy to organise this but obviously there would need to be agreement with both the council and Transport for London who are funding the main project.”



■ **OFF-COLOUR?** Hammersmith Bridge could get a new look.

Recycling rewards

CASH prizes will be awarded to recyclers in Hammersmith as part of a new incentive scheme designed to cut waste collection costs and improve the environment.

‘Golden tickets’ are being sent out to all households in the borough with prizes of up to £500 up for grabs.

Hammersmith and Fulham Council is encouraging residents to fill in the tickets with their details and attach it to their clean recycling on collection day.

Winning tickets will be picked on October 30, with three subsequent draws in December, February and March.



■ **FIRST PRIZE:** Green-fingered Hammersmith gardeners were among the winners as the finest fresh food and floral displays took centre stage at the Fulham Horticultural Society's autumn show last weekend. An array of fruit, vegetables, cake and jams stood alongside bouquets of flowers in full bloom, as local growers brought a splash of colour to St Etheldreda's Church in Fulham Palace Road. First-time exhibitor Nadiya Brydon, pictured, of Crefold Close, Hammersmith, took home the first prize award for her unusual Tromba squash, while also winning the plaudits for her Pink Fir Apple potatoes and vibrant floral displays.

Open invitation to enjoy west London's creativity

ALMOST 200 west London artists will display their work during the Kensington and Fulham Open Art Spaces event next month.

A wide range of creative artists – including jewellers, painters, potters, print-makers, sculptors and photographers – are due to take part in a series of 50 free exhibitions at venues from Hammersmith to Pimlico.

The number of participants at the event, formerly known as Kensington and Fulham Open Studios, has more than doubled since last year.

Alongside the displays of artwork, a string of performances, talks, tours and workshops has been lined up, as well as a group show at Hammersmith's Austin Forum.

Lucy Beaumont, founder of Pocket Arts, the organisation behind Open Art Spaces, said: “It's about bringing people together, showing off the artistic people and creative spaces in our small area.”

This year's events, which take place between October 9 and 18, also include a drop-in-and-draw day at Heatherley's Fine Art School, demonstrations from craft-makers at Kindred Studios and a guided tour of Charing Cross Hospital's art collection.

Entry to all events is free and visitors will be able to navigate between venues by using the Open Art Spaces map. For more information, visit www.openartspaces.co.uk

Council in the clear to reduce street clutter

COUNCIL leaders have been given new powers to reduce street clutter in Hammersmith in an effort to make pavements safer for people with impaired mobility.

Under previous legislation, Hammersmith and Fulham Council was required to seek permission from business owners in order to install signs and lighting on their property. As a result, these items were often attached to lampposts and columns, creating unwanted street clutter.

New guidelines set out by London Councils – the capital's local government association – mean the council can now install signs and lighting on business owners' property as long as 56 days' notice is given. Property owners will still have the right to challenge decisions before they are carried out.

Share your news

Email your news items and photos to your Hammersmith reporter, Jack Dixon: jack@londonweeklynews.co.uk

Heathrow urged to do more to reduce noise and pollution

BY JACK DIXON

jack@londonweeklynews.co.uk

HEATHROW chiefs came under pressure last week to do more to address noise and air pollution issues surrounding plans for a third runway at London's busiest airport, amid warnings of a “massive increase” in air traffic congestion over Hammersmith.

Opponents stepped up their campaign against the expansion proposals as Heathrow initiated a new scheme designed to reduce the noise impact on people living under its flight paths.

Last week, the airport began trialling steeper descents in an effort to allay fears that the extra runway would create unbearable noise pollution. But Hammersmith and Fulham Council's transport spokesman warned the proposed scheme did not go far enough and urged airport bosses to “think much harder” about ways to tackle local concerns.

Meanwhile, in a fresh attack on the planned expansion, the Mayor of London Boris Johnson accused Heathrow of pulling “a gigantic ball of wool” over “the eyes of the nation”. Some cam-

paigners even targeted the homes of senior Heathrow bosses, rolling out mock runway strips on the driveways of chief executive John Holland-Kaye and sustainability director Matt Gorman.

Opposition commentators warn that additional flight paths will mean more aircraft passing over Hammersmith, leading to constant noise problems and damaging impacts on air quality in the borough.

Despite appeals from angry residents, the third runway at Heathrow was backed by the Airports Commission, chaired by Sir Howard Davies, in July. The Government is due to consider alternative options before making a final decision later this year.

Speaking out against Heathrow's trial scheme last week, Councillor Wesley Harcourt, Hammersmith and Fulham Council's cabinet member for transport, said the measures were “inadequate”.

He added: “Heathrow expansion would mean a massive increase in traffic congestion and air pollution, as well as significant noise from aircraft. The

difference these proposals will make is inadequate compared to the misery expansion will bring.

“We will monitor the results of the trial and welcome any reduction in noise, but Heathrow bosses need to think much harder about reducing the impacts the airport has on Hammersmith and Fulham residents.”

Under the new measures, Heathrow will assess whether aircraft can safely approach at an angle of 3.2 degrees, slightly steeper than the international standard of three degrees. It has outlined plans for a six-month trial starting last week.

John Stewart, chair of the anti-Heathrow campaign group HACAN, said that while the steeper descents represented an “important first step”, only a “minimal” difference would be made to the level of noise Hammersmith residents can expect to deal with on a daily basis.

The Mayor of London went further in his criticism of airport chiefs, claiming in a dossier sent to MPs and peers that the Heathrow proposals were “failing London and failing the nation on

every level”. He said expanding the airport would equate to “investing in decline” and warned that the country was “sleepwalking its way to becoming a bit-part player in the aviation world”.

Heathrow argues that its expansion plans meet all air quality requirements and will actually result in fewer people being affected by noise.

The airport points to new Populus poll that suggests that half of residents living near to Heathrow support the expansion. Around a third said they opposed the project.

Matt Gorman, Heathrow's director of sustainability, said: “This is a plan which does not force a choice between the environment and the economy – it will deliver for both. We have gone back to the drawing board, designed an improved approach and put forward a proposal for expansion unanimously recommended by the Airports Commission.”

“A bigger Heathrow will be a better Heathrow for our local communities, compatible with carbon emissions targets, air quality limits and with fewer people impacted by noise than today.”

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Faith leaders extend welcome to refugees

RELIGIOUS leaders in Hammersmith have offered words of welcome to desperate refugees fleeing Syria and Iraq, as members of the community rally round in support of international efforts to tackle the ongoing crisis.

Senior faith figures from across the borough have spoken out about the important role Londoners can play, following local councillors' calls for urgent government action.

Last week, Councillor Stephen Cowan, the leader of Hammersmith and Fulham Council, extended a welcome to refugees and indicated that the borough is ready and willing to find accommodation for some of those fleeing conflicts in the Middle East.

He said he felt a "humanitarian duty" to make sure the borough does its bit by offering shelter to those in need.

His message has now been echoed by local religious leaders – of several different faiths – amid growing calls for London to take a lead in supporting refugees.

Simon Downham, the vicar at St Paul's Church in Hammersmith, said: "We should be to-

BY JACK DIXON
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gether finding ways of increasing the numbers which we think we are prepared to receive.

"We should be working with government, charitable and other institutions – it will make us a better community if we can find ways of assisting."

He added: "It's the right thing to do. That is what it means to be, in the most fundamental sense, a good neighbour."

"It's humanity. Regardless of skin colour or beliefs, they are humans and we are humans, and we have to help."

Hassan Al Jishdimi, Imam of the Al Muntada mosque in Parsons Green, said those fleeing the Middle East deserved to be helped.

"They didn't choose to be refugees, to leave their land, their homes, their families," he said. "Because of conflict in their communities, they are seeking refuge. These people are in need and there are women and children involved, which makes it worse. Most people in the community here welcome the idea of helping."

He added: "We have a shared

humanity. If we imagined ourselves in this situation we would want everyone in the world to help us because we're in need."

Thousands of Londoners took part in the 'Solidarity with Refugees' event last Saturday (September 12), as political leaders and campaign groups gathered in Westminster in a show of support for those fleeing ISIS and the Syrian war.

Hammersmith and Fulham Council has already signalled its intention to work with other London boroughs to help accommodate refugees.

In a statement, Councillor Cowan said: "There is a long British tradition of welcoming and supporting refugees and Hammersmith and Fulham Council has always done its bit by offering shelter and support. Indeed, many refugees have subsequently made invaluable contributions to our borough and our country."

"It's critical that the UK Government now urgently implements a system to identify refugee families so that Hammersmith and Fulham, and other councils, can do the right thing and provide the necessary support."



■ **NEW CHAPTER:** Local reading charity Doorstep Library joined authors from across west London to celebrate the written word at the Chiswick Book Festival last week. Project coordinator Emily Oliver (left) joined former Blue Peter presenter Janet Ellis – a long-standing supporter of the charity – and festival director Torin Douglas to help promote its work with disadvantaged children in Hammersmith and Fulham. Doorstep Library recruits and trains volunteers to inspire children aged between one and 11 to develop a passion for reading. It currently runs five centres in the borough, lending more than 11,000 books last year alone. Emily said: 'The line-up at this year's festival was fantastic and we are extremely grateful to all the organisers and volunteers for ensuring that the supported charities were recognised and that visitors were encouraged to visit the charity stands to find out more about our work.'

Entrepreneur's in line for top award

BY LWN REPORTER
editorial@londonweeklynews.co.uk

A FULHAM boutique favoured by the Duchess of Cambridge has beaten stiff competition from hundreds of the UK's best small businesses to be short-listed for a prestigious national prize.

Beatrice de Montille – the west London mum who set up online jewellery shop Merci Maman in 2007 – will compete to become Entrepreneur of the Year at the Nectar Small Business Awards.

Mrs de Montille established the company eight years ago after turning her passion for personalised gifts into a money-spinning venture.

The boutique offers a selection of bespoke, hand-engraved jewellery, including necklaces, bracelets, cufflinks and rings – some of which have already been sampled by Princess Kate herself.

Sales went sky high when the Duchess was spotted, soon after the birth of Prince George, wearing one of the company's necklaces engraved with the name of the future king.

What began as a small online business has grown into an international retailer, with 15 paid staff handling orders from around the world. And industry



■ **CREATIVE GIFT:** Beatrice de Montille.

experts are already tipping the Fulham company to hit the big time in years to come.

A panel of high-profile judges – headed by *Dragon's Den* star Sarah Willingham – will make the final decision later this autumn.

Having been shortlisted among the competition's carefully chosen finalists, Mrs de Montille is poised to discover whether she will scoop the entrepreneur award and a £2,000 cash prize.

She said: "Being shortlisted in the Nectar Small Business Awards is a great honour and the team is so proud. Since the beginning from my kitchen

table, we have put much hard work and energy into Merci Maman – this achievement is a dream come true. I am very proud of my team's creativity and consistency in delivering high-quality and meaningful, personalised gifts."

Will Shuckburgh, managing director at Nectar and a member of the judging panel, added: "The awards showcase today's business talent and the disruptive, ambitious stars of tomorrow."

"Like previous winners NotontheHighStreet.com and HungryHouse.co.uk, we believe Merci Maman is destined for greatness."

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Arts festival will broaden horizons

THE sixth annual Nour Festival of Arts runs from October 20 to November 8, presenting 50 events in 18 venues across Kensington and Chelsea.

This year's highlights include the UK and European premiere of Saudi photographer Adel Quraishi's commanding photographic portraits of the Last Guardians of the Prophet's Mosque at Medina, at Leighton House Museum; award winning Franco-Moroccan singer Hindi Zahra at the Royal Albert Hall; hypnotic movement from Lebanese dancer-choreographer Pierre Geagea; in conversation with Nawal El Saadawi, internationally renowned Egyptian writer at the Mosaic Rooms; Ara-B-Less, an evening of interactive art at Saatchi Gallery, featuring artists from across the Middle East North African region; and a chance to savour contemporary twists on traditional dishes from the Arabian Gulf region with top chefs Adla Al-Sharhan (Kuwait) and Nadeen Aujan (Saudi Arabia/UK) at Jamie Oliver's Recipease.

Alongside long-term venue partners like the Victoria and Albert Museum, the Royal Albert Hall and Ismaili Centre, new venues include Saatchi Gallery, Londonprintstudio, 20th Century Theatre, Print Room at the Coronet and The Pheasantry.

For the full programme visit www.nourfestival.co.uk

■ **TALK OF THE TOWN** – what's on in the West End: Pages 18–20



■ **LEAD ROLES:** Parks police officers PC Dave Pullan and PC Francis Rose offered advice and guidance.



■ **SHOW-OFFS:** Competitors meet the Press.

Ruff guide to top dogs

MAN'S best friend took centre stage at the Kensington Memorial Park's fifth annual dog show on Sunday, September 13 – and in the process helped raise £283 for cancer charities.

Sixty-two dogs were entered in 180 classes at the dog show, which was organised by the Royal Borough's Parks Police Team. It had the difficult job of deciding which pooches were best in their respective classes.

In the end a ten-month-old French Bulldog named Henry of Cambridge was judged best in show and also won the best puppy in show, to the delight of his owner Philip McDougall. A three-year-old Springer Spaniel, Jet, owned by L Whiteman, was voted the dog the judges would most like to take home.

Dog show organisers PC Rose Francis and PC Helen Tilbury were delighted that the rain held off and that there was a good turnout, which resulted in one of the best attended dog shows so far.

Children explore markets in film

CHILDREN explore the vibrant multicultural community of their local markets in a new short documentary film which was shown for the first time last week.

The Children Of Portobello and Golborne, directed by Darren O'Mahoney and produced by Alison Aylen, is a lighthearted film, created with children and for children, telling the story of the immigrant arrivals to the area over the last 150 years.

As the students search for the answers to their questions they experience the bustle of the market and its people first hand. The children discover how the Spanish community arrived after the Civil War with their olive oil, paella and chorizo, the Moroccans followed with their exotic spices and tagines and how the arrival of the Caribbean immigrants in the 1960s changed Portobello forever. Through meeting these colourful local characters and devouring the multicultural food the students start to discover what makes Portobello and Golborne markets so unique.

This short film is part of a research project led by the Food Explorers in partnership with the Hammersmith and Fulham Urban Studies Centre, which is set to run in schools throughout Kensington and Chelsea over the next few years to celebrate the 150th anniversary of Portobello and Golborne markets.

An interactive map, exhibition and historical guide have also been developed.

Rifkind tipped for key role in Lords

BY GEOFF BAKER

geoff@londonweeklynews.co.uk

KENSINGTON'S former MP Sir Malcolm Rifkind is set to return to Parliament in a new role – as the Government's special intelligence ace in the House of Lords, writes Geoff Baker.

Sir Malcolm – who was completely cleared by a parliamentary watchdog last week of breaking any rules in 'cash-for-access' allegations – is being tipped for a peerage in the New Year's Honours.

It is understood that the Prime Minister – who has welcomed a Parliamentary Commissioner for Standards report clearing Sir Malcolm of breaking the rules on paid lobbying – wants a heavy-hitting intelligence expert in the Lords to strengthen the Government's case for giving security services greater powers in the light of the increasing terror threat to the UK.

The ISIS terror threat, revealed last week as "unprecedented" by M15 Director General Andrew Parker, is expected to grow in coming years and the Government needs "on-side" and informed voices in the upper house to combat any

controversy over strengthening the role of the secret services.

None is more expert than Sir Malcolm, who was chairman of the powerful Intelligence and Security Committee for five years and was also Foreign Secretary and Secretary of State for Defence during his more than 40 years in politics.

Last week Sir Malcolm was staying tight-lipped on suggestions that he would be elevated to the House of Lords. He told this newspaper that he "did not have the faintest idea" of Government plans to bring him back into the fold.

But he revealed that he intends to carry on in politics.

"I have never left politics, what I left was the House of Commons. But you do not have to be in the House of Commons to be in politics," he said.

"I have still been giving political speeches and I intend to be still involved."

His decision to carry on as a politician will be a relief to Prime Minister David Cameron, who last week applauded Parliament's standards commissioner's verdict that neither Sir Malcolm nor fellow former Foreign Secretary Jack Straw breached any rules on paid lobbying when they were

caught in a newspaper and TV sting earlier this year.

A Downing Street statement said: "The Prime Minister welcomes the report by the Parliamentary Commissioner for Standards which has cleared Sir Malcolm Rifkind following allegations made earlier this year. The Commissioner makes clear that Sir Malcolm did not breach the rules on paid lobbying.

"After a long and distinguished career in the House of Commons, the Prime Minister welcomes the fact that that Sir Malcolm, and his family, can now put this distressing episode behind them."

Sir Malcolm, who said that he had been expecting to be cleared of any wrongdoing, revealed that since stepping down as an MP before the General Election he has been writing his autobiography.

The book is set to be one of the political blockbusters of the modern age as few statesmen are as well-connected or have seen so much behind the scenes at Westminster and on the world stage as Sir Malcolm, who served as a Minister throughout the entire 18 years of the Conservative governments of Margaret Thatcher and then John Major.

Collect stickers when you spend money at 28 Portobello & Golborne Market area businesses until 30 September 2015 for your chance to win a prize draw package worth over £1,000!

Participating businesses include:

Street market stalls 81st Generation, Brocant Antique, Cameras London, Collectors Prints, Denise Baptiste London, Lau Toys, Mind Box, Simone Salandini, Suneeta Cosmetics, and Yeti Magic

Shops & arcades Alexeeva & Jones, Baristas Fusion, Big Red Tent Vinyl Cafe, Book and Kitchen, Brbr Bullet, Buddhadly London, The Chinese Tea Company, Dr Care Pharmacy, La Cave a Fromage, London Tree House, Neal's Yard Remedies, The Notting Hill Bookshop, Olympic Antiquer (in the Red Lion arcade), Pedlars, Salumeria, Sapelle, and Snaps + Rye

FLASH-FASHION SHOPPING PASSPORT



Upcoming Portobello & Golborne Market events:

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| 25 September | Macmillan coffee morning fundraiser at the Brocant Antique stall. |
| 26 September | Bikeminded cycling tour of markets in Kensington and Chelsea (ticketed, £5). |
| 2 & 16 October | Extraordinary Edibles 90 minute market walking tours at 10.30am (ticketed, FREE). |
| 16 October | Apple juicing demo with the Urban Orchard Project near Dunworth Mews. |
| 17 October | Bikeminded cycling tour of markets in Kensington and Chelsea (ticketed, £5). |
| 14 November | Awesome Antiques 90 minute market walking tours at 9.30am (ticketed, FREE). |
| 14 November | Christmas lights switch-on event at 4.45pm in the square. |

For event details and booking visit rbkc.gov.uk/ourmarkets



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shopportobello.co.uk

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LONDON WIDE

Marathon runs into the record books

TOTAL funds raised for charity by the London Marathon have now passed £770 million since the event was founded in 1981.

The announcement came this week following the confirmation of funds raised from the 2015 Virgin Money London Marathon, widely acclaimed as the world's greatest 26-miler.

Runners in this year's event raised £54.1 million for charity, up from £53.2 million in 2014, which set a new world record for an annual single-day charity fundraising event for the ninth successive year.

Hugh Brasher, Event Director, said: "Every year, the Virgin Money London Marathon inspires thousands of runners to raise record-breaking millions for charity."

"Over its first 35 years, the London Marathon has been an extraordinary force for good that has inspired profound social change."

"It is an iconic event which inspires tens of thousands each year to get off the sofa, take up running and raise millions for charity. We are constantly working to grow the event and its positive impacts as society and health services face rapidly increasing problems with obesity."

"The London Marathon Charitable Trust has enabled thousands more to get active through its funding of a huge range of recreational projects."

■ The 2016 Virgin Money London Marathon takes place on Sunday, April 24. For more information go to: www.virginmoneylondonmarathon.com

■ The London Marathon was first held on 29 March 1981 and celebrated its 35th anniversary in 2015.



■ **EVERYONE'S A WINNER:** The London Marathon Charitable Trust awarded grants totalling £4.8 million to 72 projects in 2014, bringing the total of grants allocated by The Trust to more than £56.4 million to 1,000-plus organisations in London, Surrey, Silverstone, Birmingham and Liverpool. Pictured: runners in this year's event.

Students warned to put safety first

UNIVERSITY freshers beginning their degree courses this month will be more vulnerable to crime than anywhere else in the country, new research reveals.

Statistics gathered by the Complete University Guide ahead of the new academic year placed 18 London universities in the bottom 20, with average rates of student-related crime in the capital around 40 to 45 incidents per 1,000 residents.

The guide's research specifically examined criminal activity occurring near university campuses, taking into account burglaries and robberies as well as sexual offences.

Its analysis put King's College London at the bottom of the list, with an average of 47.65 student-related crimes per 1,000 residents.

Kingston was rated the capital's safest university with an average crime rate of 21.77 per 1,000 residents.

The guide advised all new students to follow simple home safety measures, while urging first years to use recommended taxi ranks on nights out.

It concluded: "Wherever you choose to study, there will always be at risk of crime – and even if a university boasts one of the lowest crime rates around, you still need to take sensible precautions."

Monitor system to protect elderly

A NEW health and social care surveillance and monitoring system has been given its UK launch at the Royal Society of Medicine in central London.

This system combines the use of technology with the judgement of professional experienced people, in order to safeguard vulnerable adults and children in all care settings. It has been founded by Philip Scott, the former chief executive of the well-known Priory Group.

Care Protect will utilise sound and motion sensitive camera equipment, which when operational triggers live alerts of any unusual activity. Those alerts are forwarded to personnel monitoring incidents who will then determine the response time for intervention.

This service will operate independently of care providers with monitors using their experience and training to assess incident severity and recommend what action is required and in what timeframe. Relatives and guardians of vulnerable people will, at the end of this year, have the capability of system login via a unique PIN number. That would provide a live feed of their relative's room.

Bikers love B302

ROYAL Hospital Road in Kensington and Chelsea is the most popular in Britain with bikers. The B302 had more motorbikes travel on it each day in 2014 than any other minor road in England, Wales and Scotland, according to Department for Transport (DfT) figures.

Grounds for optimism over coffee shop energy scheme

BY LWN REPORTER
editorial@londonweeklynews.co.uk

COFFEE shops fuelling Londoners' morning caffeine fix will also be helping to power office buildings and supermarkets under a new capital-wide scheme.

The innovative coffee ground collection service is the brainchild of advanced biofuel company Bio-bean, previous winners of the Mayor of London's inaugural green technology Low Carbon Entrepreneur Award. They will turn the waste coffee grounds collected from London baristas into advanced biomass pellets, which will then be used to power energy networks with the capacity to heat up to 15,000 homes. The support and funding from the award has helped to turn founder and chief executive Arthur Kay's green idea into a viable, now nationwide business, employing over 20 people.

Earlier this month Mayor Boris Johnson called on more students to get involved in London's thriving green economy and submit green business ideas when he launched the 2016 Low

Carbon Entrepreneur Award with a top prize of £20,000. He was joined by Mr Kay at independent coffee shop Workshop Coffee in Clerkenwell, one of hundreds of coffee shops, office blocks and transport hubs in London now part of the daily coffee ground collection service run in collaboration with recycling company First Mile.

The competition has helped many university students launch green businesses, including SolarBox, which turns disused telephone boxes into solar-powered mobile phone stations, and online clothes-swapping website Clotho London. The value of the green industry to the city is already as much as £30 billion a year and it employs 160,000 people.

Mayor of London Boris Johnson said: "Our green economy is booming and I want the next generation of low carbon entrepreneurs to help make London the greenest, most sustainable innovative city on earth. The roaring success of previous winners like Bio-bean demonstrates the huge market for green technology ideas. They've done the hard grind and Londoners can now enjoy their daily coffee fix in the safe knowledge that as well as their own caffeine kick the energy levels of as

many as 15,000 homes are being boosted!"

Bio-bean is the first company in the world to industrialise the process of recycling waste coffee grounds into advanced biofuels. Their factory has the capacity to process 50,000 tonnes of waste coffee grounds each year, the equivalent of one in every ten cups of coffee drunk in the UK, and at full capacity turn these into enough power to heat the equivalent of over 15,000 homes. As well as saving money for customers, each tonne recycled through Bio-bean's process saves up to 6.8 tonnes of CO2 equivalent. Bio-bean has already secured a deal with Network Rail to collect waste coffee grounds from London's seven largest train stations and has plans for even greater expansion.

Mr Kay said: "The first ever Low Carbon Entrepreneur Award gave me (and Bio-bean) a great start. The London collection service marks a milestone in our UK development, as we collect waste coffee grounds at every scale, saving money on waste disposal fees and creating sustainability advantages for each of our clients."

This year's awards will be

sponsored by Citi, the global banking group, and will offer £20,000 and paid internships at Citi in the UK, where the bank employs almost 10,000 people. Ten finalists will pitch to a panel of well-known judges in *Dragon's Den* style and the winners will receive funding to put towards their business idea. The competition is an important part of the Mayor's vision to make London the European capital for green technology and to also nourish young entrepreneurship. Awards are open until February 2016. Entries can be made in a number of different categories, including transport, energy efficiency, product design and food waste.

The Old Oak and Park Royal Development Corporation is currently exploring how it could deliver the Mayor's aspiration for a clean tech cluster to be developed on site, which could allow businesses in the sector to work together in close proximity similar to the 'silicon roundabout' for tech companies in east London. This could support businesses to maximise the benefits generated by the new High Speed 2 (HS2), Crossrail and Great West Main Line interchange, which will be situated in the area.



LONDON WIDE

New council house sell-off plan could ‘devastate’ social housing in capital

BY GEOFF BAKER
geoff@londonweeklynews.co.uk

WEST London’s stock of social housing could be dramatically reduced by Government plans to force a massive sell-off of council homes, it was claimed this week.

Housing and homelessness charity Shelter revealed the potentially devastating impact of Whitehall proposals to sell off council housing, with new research showing that over 60,300 council homes in London could face being sold on the private market.

The proposed scheme would force council homes worth more than a set threshold for the region to be sold once they become vacant. The money would then be used to fund new discounts of up to £100,000 for housing association tenants taking up the Right to Buy.

According to the charity’s estimates, Camden would be the worst hit area in the capital. Here over 11,700 homes could face forced sale – equivalent to nearly 50 per cent of the borough’s total council housing stock.

Kensington & Chelsea could be forced to sell a staggering 97 per cent of their total, or over 6,600 homes, once they become vacant and Westminster approximately 9,200 homes, or over 76 per cent of its total council housing stock.

Kensington and Chelsea Council says the proposals are “ominous and challenging and would have a significant effect on the borough”.

Kensington and Chelsea is not the only London borough council that stands to suffer a devastating blow to its ability to provide social housing.

Hammersmith and Fulham would lose 6,301 homes, 50.3 per cent of its stock, and Westminster approximately 9,200 homes, or over 76 per cent of its social housing.

Under the current proposals, councils would be forced to sell all their homes that are in the top third most expensive for the same property size in the local area, as they become vacant. The Government estimates that this will lead to 15,000 council house sales and raise £4.5 billion each year.

The Government has set out proposed thresholds of values over which council homes would be sold.

For London these are: £340,000 for a one-bed home, £400,000 for a two-bed, £490,000 for a three-bed, £790,000 for a four-bed and £1,205,000 for homes with five bedrooms or more.

As the average price for property sold in Kensington and Chelsea last year was £1,886,488, according to online property experts Right Move, and even a dilapidated garage in Chelsea sold for £550,000, the royal borough council faces little chance of hanging on to much of its housing stock.

Shelter’s research estimates that Kensington and Chelsea Council could lose 6,643 properties, leaving it with just 2.9 per cent of its existing homes.

The plans could create a homeless crisis and chaos for families in need of social housing, as the council admits.

In a statement which indicates the authority’s clear concern about the Government plans, the council said: “We don’t recognise Shelter’s figures but the current Government proposals do appear ominous at the moment

– what has been trailed so far would have a significant impact on the borough.

“We want to continue to be a borough with mixed income neighbourhoods, where people from different backgrounds live together and the proposals do appear challenging at the moment but until the Housing Bill is produced we do not know the actual impact it may have on us.”

The forced sales policy was set out in the Conservative Manifesto before the Tories won the General Election. The Conservatives pledged: “We will fund the replacement of properties sold under the extended Right to Buy by requiring local authorities to manage their housing assets more efficiently, with the most expensive properties sold off and replaced as they fall vacant.”

Shelter’s chief executive Campbell Robb said: “At a time when millions of families are struggling to find somewhere affordable to live, plans to sell off large swathes of the few genuinely affordable homes we have left are only going to make things worse.

“More and more families with barely a hope of ever affording a home of their own and who no longer have the option of social housing, will be forced into unstable and expensive private renting.

“The Government needs to scrap this proposal and start helping the millions of ordinary families struggling with sky high housing costs. If George Osborne is serious about turning around the housing crisis, the autumn spending review is his last chance to invest in the genuinely affordable homes this country desperately needs.”

Traditional fry-up wins full backing

SO much for the healthy eating calls – new research has shown that when it comes to breakfast Londoners prefer a Full English to fruit and muesli. Preferably with chips.

A poll of Londoners by a leading pub chain has revealed that 10 per cent eat breakfast out every other week and half say a Full English is their favourite morning dish.

Additionally, Londoners are most likely to choose bubble and squeak as part of their breakfast, with 10 per cent saying they order it often, and

15 per cent choose chips on their Full English, a higher proportion than the rest of the UK.

Mitchells & Butlers – the company behind high street pub and bar chains like Toby Carvery, Harvester restaurants and Sizzling Pubs – polled 2,000 Brits to identify exactly what should be on the classic Full English breakfast plate.

And here it is: Fried eggs, smoked bacon, thick sausages, grilled tomatoes, fried mushrooms, toast and baked beans – the perfect Full English

breakfast as voted for by Britain.

“Controversially, there is no place for black pudding, fried bread or hash browns,” say Mitchells & Butlers.

“There is still fierce debate over the perfect condiment to accompany the Full English breakfast – in the South, ketchup is the sauce of choice but in the North, breakfast champions refuse to use any condiment other than brown sauce.”

The nation’s favourite breakfast drink? Tea, of course.

Where To Find Your Local Favourite Free Newspaper

| London News <small>pick up points</small> | | | |
|---|----------------------------|----------------|----------|
| Sainsbury's Store | Melbourne Avenue | West Ealing | W13 9BZ |
| Tesco Metro | 94 Church Street | Paddington | NW8 8EX |
| Tesco Classic Metro | 17-25 Regent Street | London | SW1Y 4LR |
| Sainsbury's Store | 38 Stratton Street | Mayfair | W1J 8LT |
| Sainsbury's Store | 15-17 Tottenham Court Road | Central London | W1T 1BJ |
| Co-op | 504-506 Harrow Road | Paddington | W9 3QA |
| Tesco Classic Metro | 22-25 Bedford Street | London | WC2E 9EQ |
| Co-op | Golden Cross House | London | WC2R 0RG |
| Notting Hill Gate Library | 1 Pembridge Square | Notting Hill | W2 4EW |
| Kensal Library | 20 Golborne Road | | W10 5PF |

| Westminster & Pimlico News <small>pick up points</small> | | | |
|--|------------------------|-------------|----------|
| Sainsbury's Store | 99 Wilton Road | Pimlico | SW1V 1DT |
| Co-op | 104-105 Berwick Street | Soho | W1F 0QS |
| Tesco Metro | 18-28 Warwick Way | Westminster | SW1V 1RX |
| Tesco Classic Metro | Dean Street | London | W1D 3RS |
| Tesco Classic Metro | 10-16 Goodge Street | London | W1T 2QB |
| Tesco Metro | 90-100 Edgware Road | Westminster | W2 2EA |
| Co-op | 19-21 Store Street | Westminster | WC1E 7DB |
| Coach & Horses Pub | 23 Greek Street | Soho | W1D 5DH |
| Pimlico Library | Lupus Street | Pimlico | SW1V 3EY |

| Kensington & Chelsea News <small>pick up points</small> | | | |
|---|---------------------------|--------------|---------|
| Co-op | 210-212 Earls Court Road | Kensington | SW5 9QB |
| Sainsbury's Store | 158a Cromwell Road | Kensington | SW7 4EJ |
| Tesco Metro | 146-148 High Street | Kensington | W8 6SU |
| Sainsbury's Store | Ladbroke Grove | London | W10 5AA |
| Tesco Metro | 224-226 Portobello Rd | Notting Hill | W11 1LJ |
| Tesco Metro | 114-120 Notting Hill Gate | Notting Hill | W11 3QE |
| Tesco Super Store | West Cromwell Road | Kensington | W14 8PB |
| Kensington Central Library | Philimore Walk | Kensington | W8 7RX |
| North Kensington Library | 108 Ladbroke Grove | Kensington | W11 1PZ |
| Brompton Library | 210 Old Brompton Road | London | SW5 0BS |
| The Tabernacle, Notting Hill | 35 Powis Square | Notting Hill | W11 2AY |
| Chelsea Library | Chelsea Old Town Hall | Chelsea | SW3 5EZ |
| Chelsea Sports Centre | Chelsea Manor Street | Chelsea | SW3 5PL |

| Fulham Chronicle <small>pick up points</small> | | | |
|--|-------------------------------|--------|---------|
| Sainsbury's Store | 51 Townsmead Road | Fulham | SW6 2SY |
| Sainsbury's Store | Fulham Broadway Retail Centre | Fulham | SW6 1BW |
| Co-op | 254 North End Road | London | SW6 1NJ |
| Co-op | 314 Lillie Road | Fulham | SW6 7PS |
| Co-op | 60 Parsons Green Lane | Fulham | SW6 4HU |
| Fulham Library | 598 Fulham Road | | SW6 5NX |

| Hammersmith Chronicle <small>pick up points</small> | | | |
|---|-------------------------|-------------|--------|
| Sainsbury's Store | 2-3 Kings Mall | Kings Mall | W6 0PZ |
| Tesco Super Store | 180 Shepherds Bush Road | London | W6 7NL |
| Marketing Dept Fulham & Hammersmith Council | King Street | London | W6 9JU |
| The Grove Neighbourhood Centre | 7 Bradmore Park Road | Hammersmith | W6 0DT |

| Shepherd's Bush Chronicle <small>pick up points</small> | | | |
|---|-------------------------------|----------------|---------|
| WM Morrisons | 114-116 Shepherds Bush Centre | Shepherds Bush | W12 8PP |

LWN

NEWS FROM KENSINGTON AND CHELSEA

Recycling rubbish rewards residents

RESIDENTS in Kensington and Chelsea are in with a chance of winning cash prizes by recycling responsibly.

Western Riverside Waste Authority, the waste disposal authority that manages waste and recycling services for the London boroughs of Hammersmith and Fulham, Lambeth, Wandsworth and the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, has been awarded a grant from central government to introduce a recycling reward initiative to encourage residents to recycle more and to recycle correctly.

Residents are being asked to put their contact details on a Golden Ticket and pop it into a clear recycling bag with their clean, correct materials for recycling. Residents living on estates will be asked to insert their Golden Tickets in their communal recycling banks.

Golden tickets that are found at the Western Riverside Waste Authority recycling plant in Wandsworth will be entered into a draw. The first draw, on Friday, October 30, will be for a single winner of £1,000.

Community groups and resident associations can also win prizes by recycling right and have the chance of winning

**Recycle more!
Win cash!**
Simply pop a Golden Ticket
in with your recycling



Look out for your Golden Tickets or download them.
www.rbkc.gov.uk/GoldenTicket

■ READ ALL ABOUT IT: The Golden Ticket promotion.

£2,500 to be spent on a community cause or project of their choice.

Community groups are also being asked to sign up to 'pledges' to encourage better recycling on their estates or in their local area; this could include starting up composting schemes, delivering recycling leaflets or arranging for new textile banks to be installed on estates.

There is information on what can be recycled on the Council's website www.rbkc.gov.uk/recycle

For information on the com-

petition, including details of the terms and conditions, go to www.rbkc.gov.uk/GoldenTicket or phone 020 8871 2788

■ A new plan which sets out how Kensington and Chelsea Council will do its bit to reduce greenhouse gases and urban air pollutants is open for consultation.

You can view the plan and complete the survey at www.rbkc.gov.uk/aqccap

Residents can comment on the plan at three drop-in sessions which take place on: Wednesday, September 23, 12.30pm to 2pm at the Muslim Cultural Heritage Centre, 244 Acklam Road, W10 5YG; Saturday, October 3, 12.30pm to 2pm at the Ecology Centre in Holland Park, W8 6LU; Tuesday, October 6, 6pm to 7.30pm at Brompton Library, 210 Old Brompton Road, SW5 0BS.

The consultation closes on Monday, October 19.

Printed copies of the consultation document can be requested by emailing this address: aqccap@rbkc.gov.uk – or by writing to: The Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, Environmental Quality/Climate Change, Council Offices, Pembroke Road, London W8 6PW.



NEWS FROM NICK ...

with Nicholas Paget-Brown,
Leader of the Royal Borough
of Kensington and Chelsea



■ SELF-STYLED TRIBUNE: Pop star Ellie Goulding criticised the council over its begging policy.



Baseless assertions diminish the debate

I HAVE political instincts and I've occasionally been forced to rely on them, but I'd always much rather make a decision based on reason and evidence.

Give me a dry paper every day of the week which sets out the history, the risks and the opportunities over a baseless assertion by a self-styled tribune of the people.

Unfortunately, there have been three outstanding examples of such assertions just lately, hence this grumpy column.

One concerned our poster campaign asking people to think carefully before giving money to street beggars. Not long after the posters went up, a pop star was tweeting to say how "disappointed" she was in us. Our campaign "is a joke" she opined to her 5.3 million followers. Did her verdict follow careful consideration of the views of the homelessness charities and the police who are backing our campaign? Did she look at the statistics which demonstrate that more often than not the homeless beggars you give money to aren't actually homeless and are using your cash to buy drugs and alcohol which might kill them? Maybe, but somehow I doubt it.

Then there was the recent claim by a local and rather famous film director that a Crossrail 2 stop in Chelsea is "a mindless idea". "It's not needed, and not wanted", he explained via the *London Evening Standard*.

Now the TfL transport engineers who have been designing this scheme for years may not have directed a groundbreaking film that introduced the world to the "custard splurge gun", but they are clever people nonetheless and dismissing their expertise as "mindless" is, well, mindless. As for "unnecessary" and "unwanted",

I think what our critic means is unneeded and unwanted by people like him. It is indeed true that Chelsea has a delightful ambience but it also has terrible air quality, it has congestion, and there is a clear lack of good public transport for people working locally and a growing number of car-less residents. It is not impossible to retain our unique ambience and still have a brand new high speed transport link.

And finally there is "social cleansing". We recently delivered a letter to a part of the borough saying we are looking at the potential to build new homes in the area.

It took only hours before people began to pop up on the internet saying that what we were actually planning was "social cleansing".

People are made nervous by the prospect of nearby development. I know that. But before reaching for ugly evocations of the Bosnian horror know this: we are in the grip of a national housing crisis and every council should be looking for ways to build more homes. We are and we are not apologising for it and we believe that by restoring street patterns and introducing squares we can even improve the borough at the same time.

No one, and I mean no one, is ever going to be 'socially cleansed' by one of our developments. In fact if you are a council tenant the worse that can happen is you will end up in a superb new home on the same terms as your old flat.

There, I have got it off my chest. Grump over. So let me finish with an apposite quote redolent of erudition and in no way culled from a quotation website.

"The right to be heard does not automatically include the right to be taken seriously."

Hubert H Humphrey

Did her verdict follow careful consideration of the views of the homeless charities and the police?

To contact the Leader of the Council, Cllr Nick Paget-Brown, email theleader@rbkc.gov.uk



John Parnham's Children's Fun Fair in partnership with h&sf
sponsoring the Pensioners Christmas Lunch

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UNDER THE WESTWAY

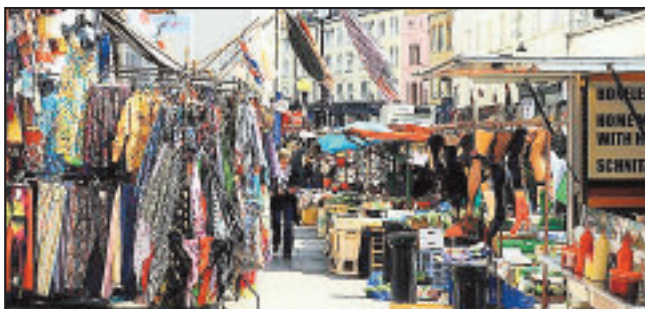
Community helps shape plans for Portobello Village

Angela McConville, Chief Executive of the Westway Trust, shares the results of the Portobello Village Improvement Plan consultation and explains what is next for the project

THIS week we are releasing the results of the extensive consultation we conducted over the spring and summer about the Portobello Village Improvement Plan.

Many people locally are aware of the plan, but for those who aren't, Westway Trust is seeking to improve the area at the junction of Portobello Road and the Westway, including Portobello Green, Portobello Green Arcade, Acklam Village, and Acklam Road Car Park, for the benefit of the community and local traders.

Improvement of the area is desperately needed. The existing canopy area, Acklam Road area and Portobello Green are underused outside of market days and suffer from poor public space and problems of anti-social behaviour. A recent survey of over 100 local shopkeepers and market traders highlighted that over half reported a decrease in the amount of trade compared to last year and 60% said that the general environment needs improving, requesting more community and cultural activities.



■ **IMPROVEMENTS AHEAD: Fresh ideas are coming to Portobello.**

The aim of the Improvement Plan is to strengthen the market offer by providing 150-200 more jobs and trading opportunities; providing new storage and other facilities for market traders; opening up the Portobello Green; creating safer spaces; ensuring a cleaner, greener and more accessible and inviting public realm; and seeking to develop a better and more flexible spaces for arts, cultural and community events.

In March this year, we held an exhibition for the community to share early concept ideas for improvements to the Portobello Village area. Over the last six months we have heard views

from over 700 people at consultation workshops, on a weekly stall on the vintage market, through a survey of local retailers and market traders, and via emails and social media.

The feedback was wide-ranging and diverse, and of course not everyone has the same view, but some key themes emerged. Preserving the heritage and character of the area was a view strongly held by most. Specifically, people want assurance that the vintage market and its heritage will remain at the heart of the plan.

I would like to stress that the heritage of the market will be protected. We are committed to

bringing forward improvements that will successfully support the market into the future. We plan for affordable facilities for traders and retailers, no loss of stalls and small new retail spaces designed to attract independent businesses.

Plans for a building with a roof top garden over the market were not popular, so we will not progress replacing the market canopy with a building.

People requested improvements to seating areas, signage, lighting and trader toilets, as well as developing a greener area that is more attractive to families. All of which I am pleased to say chimes with our thinking and will be incorporated into our next stage designs.

It is important to highlight that not everyone agrees with each other about what should happen next. Such difference of opinion is not unsurprising in such a diverse and vibrant community.

Here at the Westway Trust we have reviewed and considered all feedback; we want to strike the right balance that meets the needs and wants of local people, organisations and business.

We are striving to bring forward a proposal that maximises social and economic benefit with a scheme that is

financially sound and deliverable. This means some ideas may not make the final plans, but we are committed to sharing openly where we are at and explaining the rationale for our decision-making.

A revised plan is currently being prepared and we aim to bring forward new designs over the coming months. We will publicise opportunities to view the new designs and will be inviting the community to provide more feedback at that stage.

Over the next 15 years, we plan to work with the community to deliver social enterprise, retail, cultural and sporting opportunities together with improvements to the gardens and open spaces across the Westway estate.

We believe by harnessing the creativity, heritage and diversity that makes the area so special, we will create distinctive and attractive places of which we can all be proud, and visitors can enjoy.

A full report of the feedback, including analysis of the findings and our full response can be found on our website, which is at this address: www.space.westway.org/portobellovillage. If you have any views you would like us to consider or have any questions about our work, please do get in touch.

Festival faithful defy church thief

AFTER a hooded thief stole the evening's takings of several hundred pounds, the big-hearted audience at a concert in a west London church promptly made up the loss.

The concert was part of the Kensington Olympia Festival of Music and the Arts – held all last week at St Matthew's Church, Kensington Olympia.

The Nell trio had only just begun playing works from Brahms and Mendelssohn when the thief stole into the church and snatched the money – well over £400 pounds, say the organisers. He was chased but quickly made his escape on a bicycle down Sinclair Road.

Jinnie Moriarty, one of the festival organisers, was left in tears but chased after him with her brother Jonathan.

But it was too late and despite a rapid police response, the thief escaped. Then a local resident and festival supporter told the audience what had happened and asked them for donations to make up the stolen takings. Without hesitation they did so and contributed more than was stolen.

"The generosity of our friends and neighbours is astounding," said Jinnie. "I can-

not thank them enough. I almost cried all over again!"

Organisers say the week's festival, the first of what is hoped to become an annual event, was a great success, with audiences exceeding expectation almost every evening.

The inaugural concert, Bach's Mass in B minor by the Oxford Spezzati Soloists and Orchestra, filled the beautiful church of St Matthew's.

Other highlights included Songs from the Shows by Dun-

can Day and Friends, choral music by the Erebus Ensemble and a come-and-sing closing concert featuring Gabriel Faure's Requiem beautifully sung by over 100 performers under the direction of conductor Jeremy Summerly.

There were historical and architectural walks, a literary talk, a concert by pupils of Addison Primary School – all accompanied by art exhibitions in the church and at the nearby Masbro Centre.

Two festival masses booked the week including the final mass led by the Bishop of Fulham, The Rt Rev Jonathan Baker, and parish priest, Father Huw Chiplin.

Festival director Denis Moriarty said that despite the theft the week had exceeded all expectations. "We have been amazed by the numbers of people who supported our concerts and other events. It shows there is a huge thirst for music and the arts in W14 and we hope to continue."

"It's too early to say if we made a financial success," said Denis, "but with the continued support of local businesses and friends we have high hopes to make it an annual event."



■ **FESTIVAL SHOCK: A thief struck at St Matthew's Church, Kensington Olympia.**

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Lynn's story proves urgency of our work

I KNOW only too well that when you have breast cancer, everything changes.

Even the things written on your calendar; birthdays, holidays and yoga classes might have mastectomy, MRI scan or lymph node removal scribbled next to them.

Time becomes measured in appointments. The next scan. The next results. The next challenge.

My sister Lynn was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2002. She noticed a large lump in her breast while filming in Australia. I know her first thought was: "How could that have gotten there without my noticing it?"

Her treatment was tough; chemotherapy, radiotherapy and surgery. I stayed with her. I saw the day her hair fell out. I saw her mastectomy scars.

Sadly the breast cancer came back and spread. We lost Lynn five years ago.

Every year 55,000 are diagnosed with this brutal disease in the UK. All of these people need care, support and information – which is why Breast Cancer Care's work is so vital.

I want your readers to pass this on to anyone affected by breast cancer: from day one Breast Cancer Care will be there for you.

They understand the



■ **'BRUTAL DISEASE':** Actress Lynn Redgrave died five years ago after a long struggle with cancer.

emotions, challenges and decisions you face every day. Call their nurses free on 0800 800 6000 or visit breastcancercare.org.uk

Thank you.

**Vanessa Redgrave, CBE
Breast Cancer Care**

Schemes will help cyclists

I AM delighted to see the innovative thinking going on to improve safety for cyclists in London.

Transport for London have

introduced a specially designed junction in Cambridge Heath and I want to see these ideas spread across our city.

It works by allowing cyclists to set off at a junction first, and then vehicles which may want to turn left or right, in two separate phases. This will reduce the chance of injuries, of which there are too many in our city.

People often ask me whether a Mayor of London could turn London into a copy of Amsterdam. In many places yes, but sadly many of our roads are simply too narrow for it. However, we can still make these locations safer with schemes like this.

I hope more problem junctions will now be dealt with to ensure that all road users, cyclists, drivers and pedestrians avoid being caught up in accidents.

**Syed Kamall
MEP for London**



■ **BIKE BOOST:** Cycling friendly initiatives are being welcomed.

Walk into a better life

HOT on the heels of researchers saying that increased physical activity can help prevent or delay dementia comes a further study showing that it can also improve the mood of people

with arthritis when they are feeling fatigued.

The initiative Living Streets encourages everyone to build walking into their daily lives for all the health benefits that activity brings.

Walk to school or work, to the shops or the park, to your social occasions or just around your neighbourhood. It doesn't matter where you walk so long as you walk every day. For more information about Living Streets' walking campaigns, visit www.livingstreets.org.uk

**Tom Platt
Head of Research and Policy
Living Streets, London**

Sackings not way forward

THE proposals set out by the New Schools Network – that parents should be able trigger the sacking of headteachers in schools deemed to be failing – are designed to grab headlines rather than make a meaningful contribution to debates about school standards and governance.

In particular, the New Schools Network appear to ignore the fact that parents in maintained schools are already represented on school governing bodies. The parents elected by their peers have a key

role in holding headteachers to account for their conduct and performance.

What the Network fails to mention is that the free schools it was established to promote are under no obligation whatsoever to include parents in their governance structures.

The story of the Government's free schools and academies agendas to date has been characterised by the exclusion of parents from decision making. Rather than engaging in meaningless gimmickry, perhaps the New Schools Network's time would be better spent focusing on ensuring that parents can have a more effective say in the governance of the schools that it has helped to create.

**Chris Keates, General
Secretary, NASUWT**

Count cost of carnival

HOW will posterity regard us? The *Evening Standard* on September 1 described 400 or more persons arrested at Notting Hill Carnival, 21 police officers attacked at the same event and the press elsewhere reporting "one man knifed to death and three men arrested in connection with that".

Much has also been written of the financial benefit to the borough, whereas actually that same weekend is the time when law-abiding citizens (and others) in their hundreds thumb their noses at authority by selling at times dodgy goods (booze, etc), from their gardens and off the backs of lorries, smiling, smirking and giggling – and later making no tax declaration.

All in all, the 2016 Notting Hill Carnival can be expected to be as mad, as chaotic, as irresponsible and as bad as ever.

London's *Metro* newspaper, read by millions, gave another, more accurate account of the 2015 Carnival, "drenched by heavy rain, much of the time disrupted".

**William Stewart Robertson
Portobello Road, London**

Heartfelt invitation

I'M writing to invite your readers to join me in turning unwanted items into life-saving research this month for the British Heart Foundation's *Bag It. Beat It.* campaign.

Over 13,500 people die each year with cardiovascular disease in London, but with donations to the *Bag It. Beat It.* campaign the BHF will be able to reduce this figure. Simply fill a bag with unwanted clothes, shoes, books, handbags, DVDs, CDs, bric-a-brac and toys.

To find your local BHF shop visit www.bhf.org.uk/bagit or to book a free collection call 0800 250 0024.

**Arlene Phillips
Dance choreographer**

COMPETITION

Win tickets to see West End favourites in concert

WOULD you like the chance to see two of the biggest stars of the West End perform together for the first time in a one-night-only glittering concert?

Well here's your chance. The *London Weekly News* has teamed up with Tieline Productions to offer two lucky winners the chance to see Kerry Ellis and Louise Dearman in their concert at the Prince Edward Theatre on September 27.

You and a friend can join other theatre fans, as two of the most highly acclaimed West End leading ladies in recent years take to the stage for this once in a lifetime and unique evening of song, laughter and story telling.

To be in with a chance of winning, all you need to do is send an email with **LONDON WEEKLY NEWS COMP** as the subject heading to kerryandlouise@gmail.com along with your name, age and a contact telephone number. All entries must be received by September 25, 2015.

Terms and conditions

■ Only one entry per person
■ Each prize consists of two tickets for Kerry Ellis and Louise Dearman Live In Concert Together at the Prince Edward Theatre on September 27

■ There is no cash alternative to the prize stated, and the prizes are non-transferable.

■ Prize consists only of the elements expressly detailed above; no other elements or expenses such as travel, car parking, meals, beverages or spending money are included. All such expenses are the sole responsibility of the winner plus guest.

■ The promoter's decision is final and binding. No correspondence will be entered into. Unless otherwise stated the promoter is Tieline Productions.

■ The prize detailed is for that concert only and therefore is not transferable to other events.

■ Any additional tickets you may wish to purchase can be booked in advance online at www.delfontmackintosh.co.uk

■ Please ensure you arrive at the Prince Edward Theatre on September 27 by 7.15pm to ensure you are admitted in plenty of time for the 7.30pm. Anyone arriving after 7.30pm may not be admitted until the interval. Please also check your travel arrangements in advance as neither the promoter nor *The London Weekly News* can be held responsible for any delays due to travel disruption.

KERRY ELLIS & LOUISE DEARMAN

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BY LWN REPORTER
editorial@londonweeklynews.co.uk

A HOST of famous faces showed their support for volunteering in the capital by attending the Mayor's annual Team London Awards held at City Hall, which celebrate the outstanding contribution made by Londoners to support young people, reduce crime, improve the quality of life for excluded and disadvantaged Londoners and create a green and clean the city.

Designer Wayne Hemingway MBE, TV presenter Anneka Rice, footballer Ledley King, double world record holder for blind speed skiing Kevin Alderton and Masterchef winner, and founder of Wahaca restaurants Thomasina Miers joined the Mayor to present awards to the winners.

Those honoured included:

■ **Paige Maye-Lubrano** from Southwark – who at just 17 years of age has already given four years and almost 1,200 hours of service to the Air Cadets.

■ **Hilda Lyons** – who established the Redbridge Dippers in 1977 and has worked tirelessly to teach people of all ages, with physical disabilities or learning difficulties, to swim with many of her students going on to take part in local and national swimming competitions.

■ **Nightstop London**, whose volunteer hosts provide emergency accommodation for young homeless people aged 16-25 years in their spare bedrooms.

The Mayor of London Boris Johnson pledged a volunteering legacy from the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games and Team London, his volunteering initiative, has realised this by mobilising over 100,000 Londoners to undertake volunteering. Team London offers volunteering opportunities across a huge variety of projects, from providing respite to families with sick children to regenerating community green spaces, and supporting people with mental health problems, to coaching the next generation of athletes.

The Mayor said: "The work

Stars salute London's top volunteers

that Team London volunteers do is central to the success of the capital's thriving communities. Their hard work, innovative ways of helping others and their sheer dedication have helped to make London a cleaner, greener and more inclusive place for everyone. The award nominees should be very proud; they have helped to make a big difference to the lives of their fellow Londoners. Huge congratulations go to the winners, all of whom are incredibly deserving of this recognition."

The Mayor's Senior Advisor for Volunteering, Veronica Wadley, said: "As part of the legacy of the Games we wanted to create the next generation of volunteers so I am particularly proud to see young people across London volunteering their time in a range of wonderful projects to help others. I'm delighted that we took the opportunity to celebrate their invaluable work at the Team London Awards. We are creating new Team London opportunities every day to help even more people to get involved and give something back to our capital and I hope our award winners are an inspiration to others."

The awards marked a successful year for the Team London programme as it smashed its target to reach 100,000 volunteers nine months ahead of schedule in July. Across the capital, Londoners of all ages are now lending a hand in their local communities as a result of signing up to Team London. More than 40,000 adults and nearly 60,000 young people have signed up to volunteer through a range of programmes.

Deutsche Bank and ASOS won the top accolade in the corporate category at the awards in recognition of the volunteering work these companies and their employees do to help communities and small charities in London. Over 100 large companies are now signed up to the corporate commitment initiative, which was set up by the Mayor to encourage all businesses to volunteer their time to make a difference to communities in London, to build their staff's skill set and to recognise the value of volunteering experience in the recruitment of young people.

Team London Ambassador Wayne Hemingway said: "Being an Ambassador for Team London is a great privilege. To be able to be there tonight to recognise these inspiring individuals and organisations who, through their hard work and dedication, make such a difference to our city is incredibly rewarding."

The Team London Awards, now in their fourth year, have already recognised the dedication and commitment of over 350 volunteers from across the capital.

Full list of award categories and winners:

Greening and Cleaning

■ Under 25 – Hip Hop Garden Project from Merton

■ Over 25 – Andrew Irvine from Enfield

■ Team – North West Kent Countryside partnership volunteers

Mentoring and Coaching

■ Under 25 – Calum Donaldson from Camden

■ Over 25 – Andy Matfield from Hackney

■ Team – Camp Simcha Big Brothers and Sisters

My Community

■ Under 25 – Paige Maye-Lubrano from Southwark

■ Over 25 – Charlene Hutsebaut from Kensington and Chelsea

■ Team – Nightstop London volunteer hosts, city-wide

Corporate Volunteering Awards

■ Deutsche Bank and ASOS

Sports and Healthy Living

■ Under 25 – Daniel Khalid, Barnet

■ Over 25 – Philippa Leguen de Lacroix, Waltham Forest

■ Team – RLSB (Royal London Society for the Blind) Community Services Volunteer Team

Long Service Award

■ Individual – Ann Farrell from Havering

■ Individual – Erica Farmer from Richmond

■ Individual – Hilda Lyons from Redbridge

Volunteer Centre Award

■ Individual – Nigel Newton Sawyerr from Tower Hamlets

Speed Volunteering

■ Good Gym, city-wide

Schools Awards

■ My Community – Gearies Primary School, Redbridge

■ Mentoring and Coaching – Southfields Academy, Wandsworth

■ Sports and Healthy Living – Cardwell Primary School, Greenwich

■ Greening and Cleaning – Oasis Academy Johanna, Lambeth

Mayor's Special Achievement Award

■ Individual – Kevin Lincoln from Haringey

Unilever Award

■ Brampton Primary Academy, Bexley

Spirit of 2012 Award

■ Abbotsfield School, Hillingdon



■ **CHAMPION:** Charlene Hutsebaut, from Kensington and Chelsea, winner of the My Community Award, Over 25 category.



■ **ACCOLADE:** Deutsche Bank won the Team London Award for Corporate Volunteering for its flagship sporteducate programme. The award was presented at City Hall by the Mayor of London, Boris Johnson and Wayne Hemingway MBE, Ambassador for Team London and pioneer of social, affordable and sustainable design.



■ **RECOGNITION:** The Mayor of London Boris Johnson and guests salute this year's award winners.

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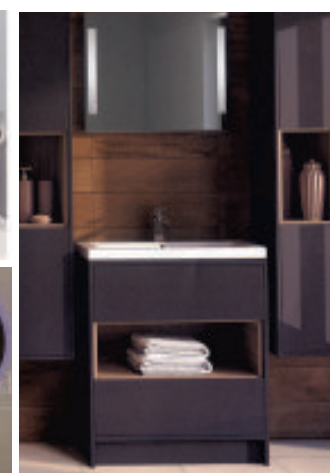
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Mayor hands out more cash from community fund

BY LWN REPORTER

jack@londonweeklynews.co.uk

THE Mayor of London has pledged £285,000 to local community projects as part of his £9 million High Street Fund, including £10,000 to the Peckham Coal Line, which aims to transform disused railway sidings into a new 1km stretch of green space.

Boris Johnson says the High Street Fund, launched in March, is re-energising the capital's high streets by embracing the city's incredible talent for creativity and innovation. This is the first time the Mayor of a major European city has used a civic crowdfunding website to directly pledge money to community projects.

Revealing the latest funding support on September 15, Mr Johnson said: "The eclectic range of projects I have seen over the course of the High Street Fund is a remarkable testament to the creativity and enterprise of Londoners, and I'm delighted to announce pledges towards 20 of those today.

"The Peckham Coal Line project is a fantastic example of how we can harness the enthusiasm of civic crowdfunding and work more directly with Londoners to improve their neighbourhoods. I urge you to go online and help your local project reach their total."

Chairman of the Mayor's Design Advisory Group, Daniel Moylan, visited Peckham to announce the groups who will receive funding and to take a tour of the Coal Line with its designer, Nick Woodford. The Peckham Coal Line will connect the communities of Queens Road and Rye Lane with a new urban park that will transform walking and cycling connections around Peckham, changing the lives of residents and businesses by bridging busy roads and creating a more direct link between two high streets.

The 900m-long route will run on disused coal sidings alongside the railway line through the heart of Peckham, framing views across London and passing through beautiful Victorian brick viaducts before dropping down to a little-used nature reserve. As well as providing a beautiful setting, the improvements will bridge the gap in a wider network of cycling and walking greenways between Brixton and the Thames.

The Mayor's funding will contribute to a full feasibility study examining how the Coal Line will be built, any planning issues involved and build costs, as well as engaging residents, businesses schools and commuters in further workshops. There will also be events in Peckham to showcase the Coal Line's history, context and potential.

Peckham Coal Line designer, Nick Woodford, said: "The Coal Line is a way of connecting people, whether that be traders benefitting from greater numbers of visitors, or creating and building on networks of local community groups. Peckham has a heritage of grassroots activism, in influencing planning projects and turning disused spaces into cultural destinations. We see the Coal Line as part of this tradition."

20 projects across 15 London boroughs will receive a share of the £285,000 to kick-start their ideas. The winning projects from 62 applications will receive pledges of up to £20,000 each from the Mayor.

These include:

■ **Good Food Catford in Lewisham** – The Mayor has pledged £14,000 towards the group's target of £33,000 in

order to bring a vacant high street shop back into use as a social enterprise community grocery store, selling affordable local and surplus vegetables grown in community gardens and allotments as well as providing workshops, training and advice on healthy eating.

■ **Literally in Tower Hamlets** – The Mayor has pledged £15,000 towards the group's target of £66,000 in order to transform a disused alleyway on Whitechapel High Street into free public library and forum with a long bookshelf containing a book exchange, a curated library, seating and planters.

■ **The Renovation of Wanstead Playground in Redbridge** – The Mayor has pledged £11,000 towards the group's target of £25,000 to help a group of local parents who have got together to renovate a dilapidated playground off Wanstead High Street.

For each project the remainder of the required funding will be raised through crowdfunding website Spacehive, where community groups are able to post their ideas and ask for financial support. Spacehive founder, Chris Gourlay, said: "Spacehive puts power in the hands of the people by giving individuals a direct say over community projects in their area. It is a more democratic way of shaping our towns and cities that grasps the creativity and wealth of local people and businesses.

"From high street water slides to free public wi-fi networks, sports facilities and major new parks, Spacehive has already had a huge impact on local areas up and down the UK.

"With the support of the Mayor's High Street Fund, we are pleased that we can help more great projects – like the Peckham Coal Line – become a reality."

During the first round of the High Street Fund, the Mayor pledged £315,000 to 17 projects across 15 London boroughs. Both rounds represent £600,000 worth of support to local community projects from the £9 million High Street Fund, supporting 37 communities across London and bringing nearly £700,000 of match funding and in kind support.

The Mayor has secured a further £20 million for London's high streets and employment areas through the London Enterprise Panel's Growth Deal funding from



■ **REJUVENATION: Impressions of the Peckham Coal Line.**



■ **COMMUNITY SPIRIT: Supporters of the Wanstead Playground Appeal celebrate receiving funding help.**

government. The London Regeneration Fund will give local authorities, traders' associations, workspace providers, and community groups the chance to come forward with exciting proposals that will help new and

traditional places of work thrive in a rapidly changing city. Funding will be available from 2016/17. Bidding is currently open for larger projects, with a further round of crowdfunding pledges opening in early 2016.

Who gets what

THE 20 projects receiving funding are:

- Peckham Coal Line Urban Park, Southwark: £10,000
- A New Creative Hub for Wood Street, Waltham Forest: £18,000
- Twist Pop Up on Station Rise, Lambeth: £14,000
- Ten Grand Arcade, Barnet: £16,000
- Fixshop, Kingston: £15,000
- Good Food Catford, Lewisham: £14,000
- The Community Kitchen, Kingston: £17,000
- Making Wembley Wonderful, Brent: £18,500
- Converting a Water Tank to an Art Space, Lewisham: £12,500
- Blossoming Rose Rosehill Traders Market, Sutton: £13,000
- Creating an Event Space, Camden: £10,000
- PlayontheGreen, Streatham: £6,000
- Our Kilburn Digital Noticeboard, Brent: £18,000
- Merchant of Venice, Barking & Dagenham: £10,000
- Sustainable Bridges, Southwark: £18,000
- Hello Hoxton High Street, Hackney: £19,000
- Green Trafalgar Road, Greenwich: £18,000
- A Shared Space for Stories in Tottenham, Haringey: £12,500
- Literralley, Tower Hamlets: £15,000
- Wanstead Playground, Redbridge: £11,000

■ In July 2014, the Mayor's Action for High Streets initiative identified the next big challenges London's high streets face and pledged to continue to invest in, support and champion them. At the same time the Mayor also released Learning from London's High Streets, to describe how high street projects already funded under the current Mayorality are making a huge difference in the capital. *Culture On The High Street*, published in July 2013, highlights some of the ways in which councils, high street and town centre teams are collaborating with artists and the creative community to create better and distinctive places.

■ The High Street Fund is part of the Mayor's £129 million investment in high streets that has already helped 85 high streets across London and attracted £75 million of match funding from public and private sector partners and delivered:

- Over 1000 jobs created (and over 1000 safeguarded)
- Over 500 temporary jobs created
- Support to 1,289 businesses
- Training to 894 young people
- 199 apprenticeships
- Over 105,000 square metres of public space improvements (nearly 15 football pitches)
- 722 buildings improvements
- Reactivation of 66 empty shops
- Spacehive.com, launched in 2012, is the world's first crowdfunding platform for civic projects.

■ **BOOST:**
Boris Johnson is backing community projects.

FOR RESIDENTS AND VISITORS

London



WEEKLY News

ISSUE 43

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Thursday, September 24th 2015

Get ready for the show of the year 2016

Scramble for tickets is just weeks away



■ **CASTLE CELEBRATION:** The Queen's 90th birthday is set to be marked with events at Windsor Castle.

BY GEOFF BAKER

geoff@londonweeklynews.co.uk

ARE you ready to try to get tickets for the royal event of the year, the big one?

If not, put a big red ring around November 30th in your diary and be prepared to scrum down for the largest rush for tickets since The Rolling Stones played Glastonbury.

Presidents, prime ministers, heads of state and everybody who is anybody will be vying to be there and the surge for "comps" is expected to be unprecedented for the event, which is tipped to be not only the show of the year but the show of 90 years.

Following the whole hokey-cokey of on/off, do we/don't we uncertainty which recently surrounded The Queen's milestone of becoming Britain's longest-reigning monarch, with all of Whitehall's dithering over

whether or not to make a big deal of it, organisers are leaving nothing to the last minute in their plans for glorious celebrations to mark Her Majesty's 90th birthday next year.

As The Queen's longest reign record by necessity involved beating the longevity of her great-great grandmother Queen Victoria, Her Majesty thought it unseemly to roll out the barrel and therefore requested "no fuss", a request which was pretty much respected.

But expect fuss for her birthday bash, expect shedloads of fuss, be prepared for an annus fustilis as now the very big guns indeed are preparing not only a big do but a big do done right.

As we know, recent celebrations of Her Majesty's increasing tally of milestones have not always gone smoothly. The River Thames Pageant to mark The Queen's Diamond Ju-

TURN TO PAGE 2



■ **THE SKY'S THE LIMIT:** Plans are under way to ensure The Queen's 90th birthday is marked with suitable fizz next year – in contrast to low-key celebrations of her becoming our longest reigning monarch.

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ROYAL LONDON

Horses to feature in 90th birthday events

Anniversary surprise fit for a Queen

FROM PAGE 1

bilee of 2012, for instance, was not exactly an unmitigated triumph. Although a record 670 boats took part in the stunning parade, 46 people were treated for the effects of the cold weather and six were hospitalised – either with hypothermia or hypertedium from the effects of the banal commentary by the BBC's team of ill-prepared experts.

Although the BBC's then Director General Mark Thompson and its Creative Director Alan Yentob defended the pageant coverage, citing high viewing figures, the rest of the nation knows that it was rubbish and the only reason why so many of us kept watching was out of a disbelieving fascination that it was allowed to be so dreadful.

Well, nothing like that is going to be allowed for The Queen's 90th Birthday Celebration.

For starters, the BBC is being left out of the organising; ITV will take control of broadcasting the event, which is being planned with the backing of some of the heaviest hitters from industry and com-

merce – blue chip businesses including Jaguar, Land Rover, BT, HSBC, Waitrose, BAE, KPMG, BP, the Royal Mail, Vodafone and the Prudential.

Planning a birthday or anniversary party for The Queen is never going to be easy and in the past organisers have been faced with the dilemma of balancing what is fitting for Her Majesty against what is popular with the public.

The Royal Variety Show was long ago instituted to address this but for Her Majesty it is more of a chore than a delight to sit through hours of, frankly, not that wonderful a programme of show-business just showing off. Is the variety show something that the Royal Family is always clamouring to be at or is it, like the Party at the Palace which marked Her Majesty's Golden Jubilee, a show too long for an elderly lady who has never expressed any especial fondness for pop and luvvie razzamatazz?

Sensibly, organisers of The Queen's 90th Birthday Celebration have chosen an event that will delight Her Majesty. Knowing that The Queen is not a diehard fan of either ballet, opera or rock



■ **EQUESTRIAN PASSION:** The Queen's love for horses is to be high on the itinerary at her 90th birthday celebrations.

and roll, they have chosen a theme that is her passion – horses – in a place that is a favourite, the private grounds of Windsor Castle.

"Her Majesty's 90th Birthday Party, hosted by the Royal Windsor Horse Show, will be a celebration of The Queen's life, her love of horses, her dedication to the Commonwealth and international affairs and her deep involvement with the Navy, Army and Air Force," say the organisers.

"Over 90 minutes, 550 horses and more than 1,200 participants from around the United Kingdom and the

world will create a joyful event for The Queen. The 90-year journey will take us from the excitement of her birth, through World War Two, her marriage, the Coronation and a reign of more than 60 years. The Celebration will use horses, The Queen's mounted troops, more than 100 pipers, actors, bands and dancers to tell the story.

"It will be a birthday party fit for The Queen."

As The Queen has two birthdays – her actual one on April 21st and her official one in June – it is always a bit of an issue of when to mark her big day. Again sen-

sibly, organisers of her party have therefore decided to hold it mid-way between, over four nights from May 12th to 15th. Each evening will be attended by a member of the Royal Family and Her Majesty and the Duke of Edinburgh will be there for the finale, which organisers promise will be "a kaleidoscope of memories and achievements".

Tickets for the party of the year will go on sale on November 30th and will be available online and from a box office which will open that month. For details and announcements, go to the website www.hmq90.co.uk

WHERE TO SEE A ROYAL THIS WEEK

Sophie will be at paper's 150th anniversary lunch

FULL details of future and recent events in the ever-busy diaries of the many members of The Royal Family are available from the official website www.royal.gov.uk but here's the London schedule for the week ahead for Where To See A Royal.

September 22nd

■ The Princess Royal, as Patron, the NZ-UK Link Foundation, will attend a reception at St Mary Axe EC3.

■ The Earl of Wessex, as Trustee, will attend two receptions for young people who have reached the Gold Standard in The Duke of Edinburgh's Award at St James's Palace.

■ The Princess Royal, as President, RedR UK, will attend a dinner at the Wax Chandlers' Hall, Gresham Street EC2.

September 23rd

■ The Earl of Wessex will visit Wilson's School, Mollison Drive, Wallington, Surrey.

■ The Duke of Gloucester will attend the book launch of *Off in Danger: the Life and Campaigns of General Sir Anthony Farrar-Hockley*, at the Oriental Club, Stratford House, Stratford Place, W1.

September 24th

■ The Countess of Wessex, as Chairman, Women in Business Group, will chair a meeting at



■ **ROYAL DUTY:** Sophie, The Countess of Wessex.

the offices of The Duke of Edinburgh's Award, Belgrave Road SW1.

■ The Countess of Wessex will attend the South London Press' 150th Anniversary Lunch on-board HMS Belfast SE1.

■ The Countess of Wessex, as Chairman, Duke of Edinburgh's Women's Network Forum, will attend the Women in Real Estates Launch Reception at FTI Consulting, 200 Aldersgate EC1.

■ The Princess Royal, as President, Save the Children UK, will hold a Vice Presidents' Re-

ception at Buckingham Palace.

■ The Princess Royal, as President, British Olympic Association, will hold a Team GB Patrons' Dinner at St James's Palace.

■ The Princess Royal, as Warden, the Fishmongers' Company, will attend a Committee of Wardens Meeting at the Fishmongers' Hall, London Bridge.

■ The Princess Royal, as President, Carers Trust, will hold a Reception at Buckingham Palace.

■ The Duchess of Gloucester, as Royal Patron, Prostate Cancer UK, will attend a Gala Dinner at Rosewood, High Holborn WC1.

■ The Duke of Kent will attend the commemoration for the 75th Anniversary of the Gallantry Medallists' League at the Royal Hospital Chelsea.

■ Princess Alexandra, as Joint President, Cancer Research UK, will attend the Benefactors Circle Reception at Brown's Hotel, Albemarle Street W1.

September 29th

■ The Duke of Gloucester, as President, Greenwich Foundation, will attend a Gala Dinner in support of the conservation of the Painted Hall at the Old Royal Naval College, King William Walk, Greenwich.



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What should we buy for The Queen's birthday?

ROYAL LONDON

Facing the present crisis

THERE is a phrase that The Queen uses at times when Her Majesty is not exactly bowled over with something. She says: "How fascinating..."

It means that she finds whatever is presented for her delight to be nothing of the sort and just now officials in Whitehall are hoping not to hear it as the great minds of government ponder a problem – what should the nation buy for The Queen as a present for her 90th birthday next year?

Plans for Her Majesty's huge birthday party picnic for 10,000 in Pall Mall in June are already advanced, as are those for her equestrian-themed celebration at Windsor Castle in May, but more vexing is the matter of deciding on an appropriate gift.

Champagne is always a good fall-back for birthdays of distinction and one option might be a case of 1926 Dom Perignon, at £192,000, were it not for the downside that The Queen does not drink champagne.

She prefers gin, with Dubonnet. Although neither 90-year-old bottles of the aperitif or the gin are on the market, there are bottles of a 1926 Fine & Rare Macallan whisky to be had at £50,000 a pop. But although a £600,000 case of the hard stuff would be a generous gift, it's not her tipple.

But even though a £600,000 case of the hard stuff would be a generous gift, it's not really appropriate.

The Queen is known to like roses and another consideration could be to plant the entirety of Boris Johnson's Garden Bridge solely with roses?



■ **IN THE RUNNING:** A Frankel foal, some fine Champagne, red roses on Boris Johnson's Garden Bridge across the River Thames and a new Royal yacht to replace Britannia might be fitting birthday presents.

She also likes cartoons, so perhaps the whole of the National Gallery could be given over to an exhibition of royal sketches? Alternatively, maybe a considerate Government could pass a new law banning in her presence speeches that last any longer than the 12 minutes that The Queen is said to find just about tolerable?

Or maybe, as many royalists have long argued, the nation should give her a Royal Yacht back, after Gordon Brown's petty penny-pinching Treasury of 1997 meanly robbed her of Britannia, a tawdry cheapskate

act which – let us not let Mr Brown forget – achieved the shameful distinction of making The Queen weep at the good ship's decommissioning.

However, the smart money is on a gift that reflects Her Majesty's lifelong love of horses.

Whitehall mandarins are not traditionally hailed as great creative minds and it should be interesting to see what they come up with for the list of suitable equestrian presents.

Obviously, the greatest gift would be for one of The Queen's horses to land the prize that has so far eluded her, winning The Derby. But that would be the gift of God and somewhat beyond the powers of the Establishment, although it wouldn't hurt the Archbishop of Canterbury to start working on it by calling in his much-claimed contacts.

More pragmatically, a bronze of Her Majesty's favourite horse, Burmese, might be a fitting present. Or perhaps Royal Ascot could be persuaded to institute in her honour a new Queen Elizabeth race?

Or maybe the Government should for once show some jump of imagination and opt for the gift that is just crying out to be most suitable for The Queen – a foal of Frankel. One of the foals of the greatest flat-race champion that has ever lived would be a fitting present for the greatest monarch who has ever been. Frankel's first foal sold for £1.5 million last year and although a similar price tag for a sibling foal might make some of the Commons howl, it would at least be a gift with some majesty to it.

■ **What do you think Her Majesty's Government should buy for The Queen's 90th birthday next year? We'd love to know what you recommend as a suitably regal reward for our monarch's unstinting public service as she enters her tenth decade. Please contact our royal reporter Geoff Baker with your suggestions. His email address is geoff@londonweeklynews.co.uk**

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■ **CHERISHED:** The Queen loved the Royal yacht Britannia – so an appropriate 90th birthday gift from her Government might be to present her with a gleaming new vessel.

SHOWBIZ SPECIAL

Meryl Streep sees relevance of *Suffragette* tribute

History girls' clamour for equal rights resonates 100 years later

by Geoff Baker

MY grandmother used to like to joke that she “was born in the blacksmith’s arms in the Seven Sisters’ Road” – it was her way of self-deprecating that she wasn’t quite respectable; being a female child of the 19th century she naturally felt to be low-born.

On Friday, November 18th 1910, when she was 20, this publican’s daughter wanted to go with her sisters and many of her young female friends to join a women’s protest march that was being organised “up West”.

My great-grandmother forbid it, she said that it would be too dangerous and that the girls should stay in the public bar and serve pints to the men who were the only ones who were allowed to drink in there.

As it happened, Great-Granny was right about the risk and her firm intervention prevented my grandmother from being beaten up by the police, clapped in irons and chains in jail and having her jaw almost broken by steel clamps that prison doctors used to prise the mouth unnaturally far open so that women hunger-striking in protest could be force-fed by a tube four-feet-long being rammed down their throats.

Their crime that demanded such brutal punishment? They were only asking that women be allowed the right to a vote. That’s all.

These days when Theresa May is in the post, it seems unbelievable that a Home Secretary should authorise the Met to punch, kick and strike with truncheons young women who were only asking to be treated as the other 49 per cent of the population.

And yet that is what Winston Churchill, then in charge at the Home Office, did – and consequently of the 300 women on the march, 200 were treated for injuries and three of them died.

It is difficult to imagine what manner of national uproar there would be today if three young women were beaten to death by the police for asking for the same rights as men. I cannot even begin to think of the uprising, the outrage, the sackings of the Met Commissioner and the Home Secretary and the prosecutions it would cause. Such an atrocity now would, without doubt, spark United Nations condemnation, bring down the Government and would most likely cause otherwise law-abiding old men like me to riot in the streets in righteous fury.



■ **CRUSADERS:** The cast of *Suffragette* rekindle an equality issue that still chimes today.

Which is why *Suffragette*, the movie that premieres as the highlight of the London Film Festival next month, is expected to have such an impact – because a modern audience will have such difficulty comprehending that such a national disgrace as the events of Black Friday 1910 actually happened.

It is also a bit of a stretch of belief that *Suffragette* is the first film that properly reveals the brutality of the Establishment’s resistance to women’s right to a vote, but that, says the film’s star Meryl Streep, is exactly the case.

“It is the first civil rights film about women,” says the world’s

greatest actress who plays the *Suffragettes*’ leader, Emmeline Pankhurst.

Streep, who stars alongside Carey Mulligan, as a young oppressed East End laundry worker, and Helena Bonham Carter, as a pharmacist who home-makes the bombs that the women’s movement used to punctuate their case, is onto an awards-winner with *Suffragette*. Already, weeks before the public get to see it, critics have left previews confidently predicting that writer Abi Morgan, director Sarah Gavron and the leads of the cast will be quite-rightly showered with Oscars, BAFTAs and Golden Globes for the mag-

nificence of the movie. But Streep did not agree to act in *Suffragette* in order to add more gongs to her sideboard, she did it because even now women do not have equality.

“Women had no rights back then, the law was on the side of the husband in all respects. But even when women were given the right to vote, things still weren’t equal and they still aren’t today,” says Streep.

As an example she cites a glaring hole in America’s claim to be the land of the free. In 1972 Congress passed an Equal Rights Amendment that would enshrine in the Constitution equality for women. But the

ERA never became law because although Congress paid lip service to it, it was never ratified.

So recently Streep set out to get this oversight corrected. She personally wrote to all 535 members of Congress.

She called on Congress to “stand up for equality, for your mother, your daughter, your sister, your wife, or yourself, by actively supporting the Equal Rights Amendment.”

She said: “I also sent each member a book called *Equal Means Equal* by Jessica Neuwirth; it’s about the revival of the attempt to get an ERA that would set in law that you cannot discriminate against women.

“I got five replies.”

Can you imagine receiving a personal letter from one of the most-acclaimed actors of our time, Meryl Streep for goodness sake, the sort of letter that anyone would put on the door of their fridge at the very least, and not replying?

What sort of weirdo thinking is that? Even given the fact that women only represent less than 20 per cent of Congress, you’d have thought that at least those 104 of them would have responded. But no, only five wrote back. The other 530 ignored her.

Such is the reason why *Suffragette* has such importance now; it is not a period piece, it is, shockingly, a theme still of today.

“Until men look around the table and say ‘You know what’s weird here? There’s only two women and eight men’, we will not have succeeded. Only when that feels weird to a man will we have achieved something,” says Streep.

The weirdness is all around us; although 51 per cent of the UK population are women – the majority shareholder in any business – only 191 of the 650 MPs are women, 29 per cent. Of the CEOs of the FTSE 100 top British companies, only seven are women. In engineering, only nine per cent are women, in the courts, only 23 per cent of judges are women.

And in Streep’s own industry the inequality is especially bad – only one per cent of movies are directed by women.

“We need the door to be opened in our industry,” says Streep.

“In the directors’ branch of the Academy there is something profoundly wrong. It’s not like the film schools aren’t graduating thousands of young women. They’re going to film festivals, they’re winning prizes, their films are seen, but they disappear.

“It has to do with our discomfort with women in leadership,

the conversation changes when women are at the table.”

My old mum has always said that if women were in charge there would be no war. Although the case of Mrs Thatcher and the Falklands may speak against that, overall history backs it up.

Women did not cause the inhumanities of The Somme or Auschwitz and it’s not from women that the refugees are fleeing in Syria. But whether women in charge would or would not make the world a better place, that, says Streep, is not the point.

“We need half, that’s all we ask,” she says.

“Half in the House, half in the Senate. Half at Universal and at Sony. If it were half, I can’t say that the world would be better – but it would be representative.”

There are 238 films in the BFI London Film Festival, of which only 45 – 19 per cent – have been directed or produced by women.

Like Meryl Streep, the BFI’s chief executive Amanda Nevill is not happy with the disparity.

“The proportion of women writers and directors remains alarmingly low, while the number of films with female protagonists is in decline,” she said.

“So something isn’t working here. It’s not a male problem or a female problem, it is something we need to tackle together. We need to invent new and intelligent ways of working for the whole workforce.”

Nevill has hopes that the power of *Suffragette*, which opens the festival, will make us query what on earth is still going on.

“*Suffragette* is an uncomfortable reminder that even after a hundred years of suffrage, humankind has made rather pathetic progress in ensuring that the whole of the population, not just half of it, is able to contribute meaningfully to society” she said.

“We have a renewed sense of impatience and it is an impatience I share. I started in the 80s and I’m completely astonished that I’m standing here and seeing a world that hasn’t moved on at all.”

Streep shares her hope that *Suffragette* will now change things.

“It would be an important thing for the film to raise the question of why?” she says.

“Why was getting women’s rights so difficult and long a process? What is the nature of this resistance? What is it in the human psyche that wants to reinforce a male dominance?”

■ **The London Film Festival runs October 7th-18th. See www.bfi.org.uk for listings**

WINE & DINE

The food and
drink page for
West London

Ottolenghi's dream team

"I ALWAYS get obsessed with things," says head chef Ramael Scully, explaining how he recently spent £100 on eBay buying 1.5kg of the rare spice, Grains of Paradise.

"It's like drugs!" shouts his friend, collaborator and boss, Yotam Ottolenghi – but then, if you're as consumed by food and flavour as these two, addiction is inevitable.

What makes Ottolenghi food – which you'll know if you've ever eaten at an Ottolenghi restaurant, bought an Ottolenghi cookbook or read an Ottolenghi recipe in the Israeli chef's *Guardian* column – is the sheer number of ingredients involved.

"Haha, we're not Italian cooks. It's not like four great ingredients put on a plate," says the 46-year-old restaurateur with a laugh. "Of course, a fresh tomato with olive oil is a great thing, but that's definitely not the way I grew up – otherwise it wouldn't be Ottolenghi."

He explains it wouldn't be NOPI or Scully food either – and this is the pair's current project, a restaurant standard cookbook based on the food served at NOPI, Ottolenghi's renowned eatery in London's Soho.

But this is a restaurant book with a twist, do not expect a coffee table slab, to be looked at and not touched. It should be daubed with spice and oil.

"I thought it was going to be a very chef-y cook book, so I was really excited," says Scully wryly. "Then [Yotam] was like, 'No, Scully, we're doing the restaurant food we do here for home cooks'. I thought, 'Yeah, it'll be a walk in the park' – it was the hardest thing I ever did!"

Jerusalem-born Ottolenghi first met Scully – who grew up in Australia but has Chinese, Indian, Malay and Irish blood – in 2005, hiring him as chef de partie.

"It's not a typical story where someone grows under someone else's roof," explains Ottolenghi. "Scully came in with his own style already. Obviously, it's evolved and changed over the years, but I haven't taught him how to cook. It's a partnership."

"Yotam is a man of words," says Scully graciously. "I had all these ideas and crazy things on the plate and Yotam's like, 'No, no, no, too much Scully, calm down'. But he knew I always had the flavour part, I just couldn't control it on the plate. And that built between us all these years. Sometimes, now, I tell him he's got too much on the plate!"

This was the trickiest aspect of putting together the NOPI cookbook: lopping off at least some of the ingredients Scully would ordinarily use in the restaurant kitchen.

Top picks include the twice-cooked chicken, the Urid Dhal cod ("A very satisfying dish for entertaining," promises Ottolenghi) and the vine leaf pie (a "piece of heaven", apparently), and they can't help spiralling into off-the-cuff cooking tips ("If you're making tzatziki – put burnt butter in it," encourages Scully).

Unable to live without "a bucket of Maldon salt", vinegars, tahini, preserved lemons, coriander and cumin seeds, cardamom, saffron and turmeric, their food may be complicated, but if Ottolenghi's three-year-old son, Max, is anything to go by, anyone can tuck into NOPI food.

"I used to feed Yotam's kid a lot of offal," says Scully, grinning.

"He ate a lot of complicated stuff



■ EXPERTS: Yotam Ottolenghi and Ramael Scully.

Picture: PA

before he could talk, he was really happy to try all these things, now he's asserting his personality!" chips in Ottolenghi. "He likes to eat grown-up food, sometimes he drinks coffee – black coffee! I'm like, 'Max are you sure you like black coffee?' 'Oh no, no, no I love it!' I don't think our food is good for very young kids, but as of six or seven or eight, it's brilliant."

Scully disagrees: "Any kid will love popcorn ice cream!"

Scully became a chef to travel the world, and got a lot of practice cooking for his sister while their mum, a nurse, did split shifts, but he originally had plans to become a marine biologist or fireman. "I surfed for so many years, I always loved the ocean. And I liked fire – I used to burn a lot of stuff."

"You do a lot of burning still!" says Ottolenghi, who, in a world without food, would concentrate all his efforts on writing. "Food without stories is normally quite boring," he notes.

For their own next chapters, Ottolenghi has a book on pastry planned, and Scully?

"Scully will eventually go out on his own," says his boss, fiercely. "He does deserve his own restaurant. That is definitely happening."

To get a taste of NOPI at home, try this...

TOMATOES WITH WASABI MASCARPONE AND PINE NUTS

(Serves 6)

250g mascarpone
1tbsp wasabi paste
10g chives, chopped
10g tarragon, chopped
1 spring onion, finely sliced
2 banana shallots, sliced widthways
2tbsp sweet sherry vinegar
1tbsp olive oil
1kg mixed tomatoes, cut into slices and wedges
1cm thick
20g pine nuts, toasted
5g mixed basil leaves
Coarse sea salt and black pepper
Place the mascarpone, wasabi, chives, tarragon and spring onion in a bowl with half a teaspoon of salt and a grind of black pepper. Mix well and keep in the fridge until needed.
Mix the shallots with the sweet vinegar, oil and half a teaspoon of salt in a separate bowl. Pop this in the fridge too.
To serve, divide the mascarpone between the plates and spread to form a thin layer. Place the tomatoes on top, followed by the pickled shallots. Sprinkle with the pine nuts, scatter over the basil leaves and season with a third of a teaspoon of salt and a grind of black pepper.



■ REFRESHING: Tomatoes and Wasabi Mascarpone and Pine Nuts from NOPI: The Cookbook by Yotam Ottolenghi and Ramael Scully.



MARK HIX'S RECIPE OF THE WEEK

Jellied tomato and cucumber soup with crayfish

Serves four to six

THIS looks like a complicated thing to make but it's actually simple. If you have access to crayfish – which you can order at your fishmonger – you can make a great bisque from the shells or you could use cooked prawns or scampi instead.

800g ripe tomatoes, halved
300ml good quality tomato juice
1 cucumber, roughly chopped (save a 3-4 cm piece for the garnish)
A few sprigs of basil
Salt and freshly ground black pepper
3 leaves of gelatine (9g)
For the garnish
12 crayfish or prawns, cooked and peeled
3-4cm cucumber, halved, seeded and cut into ½ cm dice
1 large tomato, skinned, seeded and the flesh cut into ½ cm dice
2tsp chopped chives
Salt and freshly ground white pepper
1/2tbsp rapeseed oil

Coarsely blend the tomatoes, cucumber and basil in a food processor with some freshly ground black pepper and salt and the tomato juice.

Line a colander with double muslin, or a clean tea towel, and place over a large bowl. Pour the pulp into the colander and leave overnight in the fridge to drain. The next day you should have about 600-700ml of clear juice in the bowl. Gently squeeze the pulp to extract as much juice as possible.

Jellied tomato and cucumber soup with crayfish (Jason Lowe)

Soak three leaves of gelatine (four leaves if you have closer to a litre of juice) in cold water until soft.

Meanwhile, remove a small ladleful of the clear juice and heat it in a pan. Squeeze the water from the gelatine leaves and stir them into the hot juice until dissolved. Don't boil it. Add this to the rest of the juice, stir well and put into the fridge for one to two hours until set.

Mix the tomato and cucumber with the chives and rapeseed oil, season. Give the lightly jellied juice a brief stir to break it up, and transfer into chilled bowls. Pour tomato mixture into the centre, scatter the crayfish around and serve.



■ TUCK IN AND SAVOUR: Jellied tomato and cucumber soup with crayfish.

Talk Of The Town

Music | Theatre | Reviews



■ GLITTERING CAREER: Leslie Bricusse in his pomp.



■ TEAM: Leslie Bricusse, left, main picture, with the cast of *Pure Imagination*, Dave Willetts, Julie Atherton, Niall Sheehy, Siobhan McCarthy and Giles Terera. Above: at the Oscars.

Songwriter celebrates soundtrack of our lives

A NEW musical titled *Pure Imagination*, a celebration of the music of Leslie Bricusse, is set to take the St James' Theatre by storm next week, writes Nicky Sweetland.

With an all-star cast including West End favourites Dave Willetts, Siobhan McCarthy, Niall Sheehy, Julie Atherton and Giles Terera, the show will include many of the hits of one of the most prolific songwriters of a generation.

With an autobiography also about to be published, the man himself is in town so I took the opportunity to catch up with the legendary composer, who I soon found to be both fascinating and totally delightful. He told me what we can expect from what he describes as his "sorta-biography".

"Well, the book is just anecdotes of my life and funny things that have happened on the way to the forum, you know? Just good reminiscences. It's a very 'up' book and it traces the story of my life from the beginning: where I grew up, university, where I found what I wanted to do and that sort of thing. It's quite a big book, 500 pages, but it's been a long life and I had a lot of things to tell."

The 84-year-old composer and lyricist is perhaps most famous for

his writing partnership with Anthony Newley, with whom he penned some of his most acclaimed works, including the musical *Stop the World – I Want to Get Off*, and the score for the film version of *Willy Wonka & the Chocolate Factory*, for which he was nominated for an Academy Award. He went on to win an Oscar for Best Original Song for the convivial *Talk to the Animals*, which he wrote for the film *Doctor Doolittle*, which starred Rex Harrison.

A great friend of Leslie, Sammy Davis Junior scored hits with two of his songs, *What Kind of Fool Am I* and *Candy Man*, and is the subject of a musical which Bricusse hopes will open in London within the not too distant future.

"A lot of the people who have passed through my life have become pals along the way. He (Davis Junior) was a lifelong friend and I wanted his story told properly. It's called *Sammy* and the man I want to play him is in *Pure Imagination*. His name is Giles Terera and he even looks like Sammy. He played Sammy in the Rat Pack and he's absolutely marvellous."

Having written such a vast back catalogue of famous songs, including two Bond themes and the hugely successful Nina Simone hit, *Feeling Good*, I ask Leslie if he could choose a favourite. To my surprise he takes

no time to think about the answer.

"My favourite song is in the show but I wrote it for a film called *Goodbye Mr Chips* a long time ago. We got it down to two songs and the more ambitious song didn't get used and a little song called *You and I*, which Petula Clark sang, was finally in the film. I've always loved this song and I have in fact fitted it into something else which has not yet happened. I suppose of the other songs I've written probably *Feeling Good* is one. I liked *Pure Imagination* too."

He laughs. "You love all of your children, don't you?"

Although based in France, Leslie still spends a lot of time jetting back and forth to California but also keeps a base in London. He tells me of his affection for the capital.

"I love it. It's the best city in the world. There's a song in the show called *London is London*, which was also done by Petula Clark. I wrote it for *Sherlock Holmes* and then MGM asked if they could borrow it for *Goodbye Mr Chips*. I said on the condition that it stays on the score of *Sherlock Holmes* then yes, you can."

It was announced last week that pop star Sam Smith has recorded the theme tune for the next James Bond movie. The track, called *Writing's on the Wall*, is released on September 25.

Smith said: "This is one of the highlights of my career. I am so excited to be a part of this iconic British legacy and join an incredible line-up of some of my biggest musical inspirations."

I asked Leslie his thoughts on the choice of Smith and he told me another fascinating tale.

"Well you know what happens with the Bond theme? They choose whoever's hot at the moment. They chose Adele because she was hot and Sam Smith is doing this one, but it sometimes goes wrong."

"We did *Goldfinger* because we'd just done *Stop the World – I Want to Get Off*, which was a big hit so we were in line for it. John Barry and I did various film songs together and when we did *You Only Live Twice* he said 'I'm really excited I've found this fabulous young 19-year-old girl and she is going to be great. But the big hit of the moment was *These Boots are Made for Walking*, so it was given to Nancy Sinatra instead. The 19-year-old girl who missed out was Aretha Franklin and so for the next film the producers went back to her and she didn't want to know!"

■ *Pure Imagination* will run at the St James' Theatre from September 24 to October 17. Leslie's book of the same title will be released on October 1. For more details visit the website stjamestheatre.co.uk

Monster-sized treat for the kids

THE Blunderbus theatre company are bringing their wonderful new children's production, *My Pet Monster and Me*, to the Lyric Hammersmith for just one day this Saturday, September 26, writes Nicky Sweetland.

The company, based in Nottinghamshire, are performing their latest tale in the studio of the complex as part of the autumn season, and promise to bring some fun and magic to audiences who are lucky enough to get tickets.

The professional theatre company was established in 1998 and has been creating magical theatrical experiences for children and their families ever since. They play to 200,000 children each year, visiting theatres, arts centres, schools and festivals across the UK and internationally. Last year their production at the Lyric was a sell-out and with such a wonderful reputation for providing excellent entertainment specifically tailored to families, this year's show is likely to be one not to miss.

I chatted to the wonderfully enthusiastic Outreach Director, Simon Sanchez, about this year's project. He told me how they had come up with the concept.

"The story was written by our artistic director Bill Davies and he got the inspiration for the monster from his golden retriever."

"It is set on a beautiful farm and on the farm lives Sophie and her dad along with lots of animals. Actually Sophie is just a little bit lonely, so she dreams of having a pet but really a friend. One day a mysterious delivery arrives and it's a little egg, a very unusual looking egg. Out of that egg hatches a monster whose name is George."

Sophie nurtures her blue monster and with the help of cabbages, George grows and just keeps growing, which results in plenty of fun, a bit of trouble and lots of adventures.

Simon tells me: "It's kind of a modern fairy tale about friendship, love and family."

With original music and songs by Frank Goodhind and some wonderful sets and costumes, *My Pet Monster and Me* promises to be a must see for families this month.

■ *My Pet Monster and Me* is being performed at the Lyric on September 26. For more details visit their website lyric.co.uk



■ ANIMAL MAGIC: Dad and Mr Tiddles, top, entertain the youngsters. Bottom: Sophie, Dad and George.

Talk Of The Town



■ LOOK AND LEARN: Rob Brydon in *Future Conditional*.

Brydon's class act passes stage exam

Future Conditional
The Old Vic ****

AS the daughter of a teacher, a mother and someone with a big working class chip on my shoulder, I found *Future Conditional* at the Old Vic thoroughly captivating.

Tamsin Oglesby's play, which boasted comedy great Rob Brydon gives the British education system a good telling off in this production, which highlights the gap in educational aspiration for the less privileged in our society.

An educational think tank, a classroom at a comprehensive school and the gates of a mixed population primary were the back drop in a sometimes scarily realistic window into this world.

Brydon plays a motivated and enthusiastic teacher, often on



By NICKY SWEETLAND
LWN Theatre Critic

stage alone in some extremely clever classroom scenes. With his usual wit and panache he conducts proceedings in a style not unlike that of a tennis match, with back and forth dialogue and some pacy changes of direction.

Any parent who has had to endure the carnage of the school gates will empathise, laugh and cringe at the scenes, which illustrate the competition and pressure to facilitate your child

with the next step on their educational journey. Again well performed and directed, there was a wonderfully clever dual use of cast who changed from one type of character to another effortlessly.

The third element of the production was the educational think tank, which chose to employ a student to assist with formulating its next action plan.

This became the grounds for most of the middle class bashing, with those educated at Eton and Oxbridge coming in for quite a lot of flack.

Fantastically executed by Alia Patel, the student gives a commonsense viewpoint in what seems an often one dimensional and closed microcosm. Teachers will enjoy the realistic classroom battles but the middle class may find this play slightly uncomfortable viewing.

Future Conditional runs at The Old Vic until October 3.



X Factor star at the Lyric

■ SAM BAILEY, who won ITV's *The X Factor* in 2013, will take the stage in London's West End for the first time in her career for a one-off concert at the Lyric Theatre.

Sam, pictured left, and a plethora of special guests will perform an evening of musical theatre on October 12.

Winners of *Britain's Got Talent*, Collabro, two-time Olivier Award nominee Michael Xavier, and US musical theatre composer Scott Alan are to lead the guests.

Sam Bailey: *Live in the West End* will also feature

appearances from *Les Misérables* alumni The Boys of the Barricade and a choir from Guildford School of Acting. Choreography will be by Ciarán Connolly, who is currently working with Darcey Bussell on her new fitness regime.

Speaking of the concert, Sam said: "I can't wait to take the stage in London's incredible West End and have the chance to perform some of my favourite musical theatre numbers. It's going to be a fantastic night with a few surprises for the audience!"

For more information visit nimaxtheatres.com

Burt moves closer to you

CLOSE to You, a sensational new musical featuring Burt Bacharach's songbook, is to make its highly anticipated West End transfer to the Criterion Theatre.

The show, which is performed by a young, multi-talented cast led by the visionary musician and performer Kyle Riabko, features Riabko's thrillingly new yet beautifully faithful interpretations of Bacharach's classics.

The show, newly renamed *Close to You*, premiered to critical acclaim and was a smash hit at New York Theatre Workshop, original home of both *Once* and *Rent*, becoming the longest running show in the history of that theatre, followed recently by a sold-out and highly acclaimed run at The

Menier Chocolate Factory.

Very cleverly put together and featuring over 30 of Bacharach's timeless melodies, the songbook musical is a fresh and innovative take on the genre.

It has a hugely broad appeal to both existing fans and a new generation of theatregoers who will be taken on an emotional and exhilarating journey.

Bacharach, pictured, has given the show his wholehearted and enthusiastic support, saying: "It's brilliant. Kyle has done something truly unique with my music. I loved it!"

Close to You runs at the Criterion Theatre from October 3 to January 10. For more details visit the website closetoyoulondon.com



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Talk Of The Town

london Listings

Frieze Arts Fair, Regent's Park

October 14 to 17
Established in 2003 by the founders of Frieze magazine, Matthew Slotover and Amanda Sharp, Frieze London is one of the world's leading art fairs and takes place each October in Regent's Park, London. Frieze London 2015 will feature two curated gallery sections, Live and Focus, plus the annual Frieze Projects programme curated by Nicola Lees. In 2012 Frieze established two further art fairs, Frieze New York, which takes place on Randall's Island, Manhattan each May, and Frieze Masters, which coincides with Frieze London and is dedicated to art from ancient to modern. Tickets hotline 0871 230 3452

RHS London Harvest Festival Show

October 6 and 7
The show is held in the RHS Lindley Halls, between 10am-9pm (6 October) and 10am-5pm (7 October). RHS London Harvest Late is on between 6pm-9pm (6 October). See, taste and buy mouth-watering produce at the RHS London Harvest Festival Show, a foodie feast celebrating the taste of autumn. The show is the perfect place to get ideas and inspiration on late summer gardening and growing fruit and vegetables. This year the show will return to the traditional harvest theme. To book tickets, visit rhs.org.uk/shows or call 0844 338 7502

Importance of Being Earnest at the Vaudeville Theatre

To November 7
David Suchet stars as Lady Bracknell in Oscar Wilde's much loved masterpiece. Directed by Adrian Noble, Wilde's superb satire on Victorian manners is one of the funniest plays in the English language – the delightful repartee and hilarious piercing of hypocrisy and pomposity can still make you laugh out loud. www.importanceofearnest.com

Sinatra: The Man and His Music at the London Palladium

To October 10th
The iconic music of Frank Sinatra is brought to life at one of the capital's most iconic venues in Sinatra: The Man and His Music at the London Palladium. This multi-media concert, which has the support and endorsement of the singer's family, marks the centenary of Sinatra's birth and features his greatest hits including Fly Me To The Moon, New York, New York and My Way.

London Design Festival

To September 27
The London Design Festival was conceived by Sir John Sorrell and Ben Evans. Building on London's existing design activity, their concept was to create an annual event that would promote the city's creativity, drawing in the country's greatest thinkers, practitioners, retailers and educators to a deliver an

unmissable celebration of design. First staged in 2003, the London Design Festival is one of the world's most important annual design events. The Festival programme is made up of over 400 events and exhibitions staged by hundreds of partner organisations across the design spectrum and from around the world. A major feature of the London Design Festival each year is the ambitious programme of installations that organisers call their Landmark Projects.

Hamlet at the Barbican Theatre

To October 31
Directed by Lyndsey Turner and starring Benedict Cumberbatch. Benedict Cumberbatch takes on the title role in Shakespeare's great tragedy. Directed by Lyndsey Turner (Posh, Chimera) and produced by Sonia Friedman Productions, the Barbican presents an exclusive twelve-week run of this compelling new production in summer 2015.

Pearly Kings and Queens Harvest Festival

September 27
Celebrate the harvest with the Pearly Kings and Queens, who will be wearing their traditional pearl-button suits as they parade from Guildhall to St Mary-le-Bow church. The Pearly Kings and Queens of London are a charming and unforgettable sight. At this festival, which celebrates the bounty of the autumn harvest, they will be staging traditional entertainment at Guildhall before parading to St Mary-le-Bow church for a service of thanksgiving. You can expect marching bands, donkeys and a host of colourful characters at this traditional event, which raises money for the Whitechapel Mission.

West London Philatelic Society

September
West London Philatelic Society is ten years old this month. Meetings start at 8pm and are held at The Church Rooms, behind Acton Hill Church, Woodlands Avenue, Acton, London W3 9BU. In general, meetings are on the first Tuesdays of each month, from September to July, unless noted otherwise. They are a small, friendly society. New members welcome. For more details contact Honorary Secretary Christopher E Oliver on Tel: 020 8940 9833 or e-mail: olivers.of_ham@virgin.net. Web: sites.google.com/site/westlondonphilatelicsociety

Buckingham Palace summer opening

To September 27th
Visit Buckingham Palace, the official London residence of the Queen, this summer. Buckingham Palace is one of the world's few remaining working royal palaces - don't miss the chance to see it.



■ EMOTIONS RUN HIGH: Scott Alan and Eva Noblezada.

Tears, laughter... and more tears. What a night!

Scott Alan with special guest Eva Noblezada *****

RENOWNED singer, songwriter and king of cabaret Scott Alan has just completed a highly acclaimed residency at the lovely Hippodrome casino, and I was determined to get to at least one of the virtuoso's performances, writes Nicky Sweetland.

With different special guests each night, it was difficult to choose when to attend but I decided on the evening when Scott would be joined by *Miss Saigon* star Eva Noblezada, the 19-year-old American who has set the West End alight with her dazzling vocal abilities.

This was the third night of the residence which had previously included big name guests Cynthia Erivo and Oliver Tompsett. The show the night before had obviously been rather a tumultuous affair, with

Alan tweeting about a medical emergency and a fainting incident, but quite apart from the goings on in the auditorium there had, by all accounts, been some antics on stage too. This was recounted by the maestro as he took to the stage and started the show by admitting to the multitude that he had hit rock bottom on the previous night. Through tears, Alan admitted to being an alcoholic, that he needed to seek help and that this would be his first ever sober performance. After performing one of his more pensive numbers he was joined on stage by the effervescent Eva Noblezada, fresh from "crying for two and half hours" up the road at The Prince Edward in *Miss Saigon*. The pint sized Noblezada wowed the audience immediately with her amazing vocals, which are clear, strong and really quite

beautiful. The camaraderie between Eva and Alan made us quickly forget the painful opening of the show and instead the room chimed with the sound of grateful laughter. That was until Alan was joined by another *Miss Saigon* cast member, Jon Jon Briones, who gave a masterclass in emotional performance and had most in the room, including me, in floods of tears. Just when we thought we couldn't cry anymore, another *Saigon* work mate took to the stage to sing one of Alan's classic songs about heartbreak and we were all off again.

With a few more wonderful renditions by Noblezada and some very impressive performances by two competition winners, this was a really fantastic evening of entertainment and I was left wishing I had booked to see more of the two-week run.

Carter's happy back in Superstar routine

GLENN Carter is once again donning the loin cloth to perform in Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice's rock opera, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, which will be visiting Wimbledon as part of its extended UK tour.

The show, which received new interest following the ITV programme to find a superstar in 2012 and the subsequent area tour, is playing at The New Wimbledon Theatre now and until September 26.

No stranger to the iconic role, Glenn played Jesus both in the West End and on Broadway as well as in the 2000 film version of the story.

He explained what it was like revisiting such a hugely demanding role 15 years later.

"It's been fun, I've liked the chance to do it again. There's something about it that's hard and it's also fulfilling to do. It's exciting and there are loads of

things about it that made me want to do it again."

Written in 1970, the original concept album saw the role of Jesus performed by Deep Purple lead singer Ian Gillan. It was then portrayed on stage by Paul Nicholas in the original production and along with the part of Judas, remains one of the most sought-after roles in musical theatre.

The show, which contains no dialogue, requires a vast range from the singer and with iconic songs like *Gethsemane* and *Hosanna*, there is no let-up in the operatic gymnastics. How does Glenn manage to maintain the vocal stamina night after night?

"I warm up for two hours during the day and then for another hour before the show and do the company warm-up. I hydrate myself, I don't go out at night. I can't go to bars and talk to peo-

ple so socialising with the company on this job is non-existent, unfortunately. There are people that probably do that but I'm particularly careful."

After all these years *Jesus Christ Superstar* still draws a cult following and is hugely popular, which has been reflected in the extension of the tour.

Glenn explained the difference between this touring production and others that have gone before it. He said: "It's always different every time I've done it. This production is different in that it's not searching through the darkness of Christ's psychology. This production is more about just telling the story."

You can see *Jesus Christ Superstar* at the New Wimbledon Theatre until September 26. For details you can visit the website atgtickets.com

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(GLENTHORNE ROAD) TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC

- The Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham hereby gives notice that in order to facilitate gas mains repair works in the above named road, it made an Order the effect of which will suspend a section of bus lane in Glenthorne Road.
- Whilst works are in progress, or whilst the authorised traffic signs are displayed, the eastbound bus lane on Glenthorne Road will be suspended.
- An alternative route for traffic in article 2 would not be required.
- Exemptions would be provided in the Order to permit reasonable access to premises, so far as it is practical without interference with the execution of the said work and for works vehicles, any vehicle being used in connection with police, fire or ambulance purposes and anything done with the permission or at the direction of a police constable in uniform.
- The Order would come into operation on Monday, 28th September 2015 and would be valid for a maximum period of 18 months or until works are completed, whichever is the sooner.
- Works would be expected to commence on Monday, 28th September 2015 and last for 2 weeks. The dates specified are for guidance and informative purposes only and works may extend outside these dates.

Dated this 14th day of September 2015.

Chris Bainbridge
Head of Transport Policy & Network Management
Transport & Technical Services

LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 SECTION 14(1)

(GLIDDON ROAD) TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC

- The Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham hereby gives notice that in order to facilitate Transport for London works in Talgarth Road, it made an Order the effect of which would prohibit vehicular traffic in Gliddon Road.
- Whilst works are in progress, or whilst the authorised traffic signs are displayed, no person shall cause any vehicle to proceed, stop, wait, load or unload in Gliddon Road between its junctions with Gunterstone Road and Magravine Gardens.
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- The Order would come into operation on the Tuesday, 29th September 2015 and would be valid for a maximum period of 18 months or until works are completed, whichever is the sooner.
- Works would be expected to commence on Tuesday 29th September and last until the 15th December 2015. The dates specified are for guidance and informative purposes only and works may extend outside these dates.

Dated this 17th day of September 2015.

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Public Notices

Local Planning Applications London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham



Local Planning Applications London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT 1990

I give notice that applications have been made to the Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham as follows:

FOR DEVELOPMENT WHICH MAY AFFECT THE CHARACTER OR APPEARANCE OF A CONSERVATION AREA 61 Richmond Way W14

2015/04197/FUL

Erection of an additional floor at roof level; erection of a three storey rear extension at basement, ground and first floor levels.

76 Stamford Brook Road W6 2015/04177/FUL

Erection of a single storey extension to side of main building; erection of a single storey rear extension, to the side of the existing back addition in connection with the conversion of the single dwelling house into two two bedroom self-contained flats.

3 - 5 Vanston Place SW6

2015/03865/FUL

Erection of a single storey building for use as a caretakers store within the private car park to the rear of 3 - 5 Vanston Place.

30 Sundew Avenue W12

2015/04280/FUL

Erection of a single storey extension, to the side and rear of the existing main building.

5 Parthenia Road SW6

2015/04259/FUL

Erection of a front roof extension; excavation of the front and rear garden to form lightwells in connection with the enlargement of the existing basement.

351 - 353 New King's Road SW6

2015/04257/VAR

Removal of conditions 3 (demolition method statement, construction management plan and a construction logistics plan), 4 (temporary fencing), 12 (tree protection plan), 13 (hard and soft landscaping), 14 (planting of trees), 15 (external lighting), 24 (external noise level emitted from plant/ machinery/ equipment and mitigation measures), 25 (anti-vibration measures), 31 (details of the height and design of the single-storey part of the building), 32 (climbing plants), 43 (programme of archaeological work) and 46 (Sustainable Urban Drainage System) of planning permission ref: 2010/01961/FUL granted 5th April 2013.

20 Ackmar Road SW6

2015/01993/FUL

Excavation of the front and rear garden to form lightwells in connection with the enlargement of the existing basement (Revised drawings).

11 And 13 Edith Road W14

2015/04098/FUL

Erection of front and rear roof extension extensions including the formation of hip to gable roof extensions to no. 11 and 13 Edith Road; erection of rear extensions at second floor level over part of the existing back additions and installation of 2no rooflights over the main flat roofs of no. 11 and 13 Edith Road (Amended description).

5 - 17 Michael Road SW6

2013/00474/FUL

Erection of a six storey buildings (over basement) comprising of motorcycle showroom (810sqm) workshop (380sqm) and storage at ground and mezzanine floor and ancillary parking at basement; offices at mezzanine and first floors and 18 flats between second and fifth floors.

6 Emlyn Road W12

2015/04241/FUL

Installation of an electric wrought iron sliding gate to the front boundary to provide secure access for vehicular parking on the paved front driveway; installation of a wrought iron gate to the front boundary to provide secure pedestrian access; installation of wrought iron railings to replace existing on top of the existing brick front boundary wall; and installation of 2no. wrought iron doors to the side of the property to provide secure access to the rear garden.

5 Addison Bridge Place W14

2015/00002/FUL

Demolition of existing single storey studio building in the rear garden, excavation of the rear garden in connection with the erection of a three storey extension to use as living accommodation ancillary to the main dwelling house.

66 Hartwood Road W12

2015/04161/FUL

Excavation of the front, rear and side gardens to form lightwells in connection with the creation of a new basement; erection of a boundary wall in between 66 and 64 Hartwood Road; erection of an external staircase from basement to garden level at the rear of the property; alterations to the pitch roof of single storey back addition to form a flat roof; alterations to the rear fenestration at ground floor level.

297 Goldhawk Road W12

2015/04162/FUL

Erection of a two storey side extension set back 600mm from the front line of the original house, following the demolition of the existing single storey side extension; erection of a dormer window on the existing rear roof slope at first floor level; erection of a single storey rear extension following the demolition of the existing single storey rear extension; excavation of part of the front garden to form a lightwell in connection with the creation of a new basement; and removal of part of the existing front garden boundary wall and hedge to provide vehicular access to parking to the front of the property.

632A King's Road SW6

2015/04212/FUL

Erection of a rear extension at first floor level, on top of the existing back addition; alterations to the side of rear back addition at first floor level to include installation of new windows.

92 - 94 North End Road W14

2015/04277/FUL

Erection of additional floors at roof level in connection with the creation of 2 x one bedroom self-contained residential flats; formation of roof terraces to the front elevation at roof level.

80 Uxbridge Road W12

2015/03159/FUL

Erection of a single storey rear extension, to the rear of the existing back addition following the demolition of the existing single storey rear back addition; further excavation and enlargement of existing basement; change of use of the ground floor from retail (Class A1) into restaurant (Class A3).

Former BBC Television Centre Wood Lane W12

2015/04205/ADV

Display of advertisements on both sides of light boxes, to hang from the rear of 10 tower cranes for the duration of the use of the cranes on site.

31 Chiddingstone Street SW6

2015/03886/FUL

Installation of rooflight into main roof; demolition of the existing outhouse at ground and first level, to the rear of the existing back addition; excavation under the front garden to extend and lower the existing basement; and excavation under part of the rear garden to form a lightwell, in connection with the enlargement and lowering of the existing basement; alterations to the front garden wall, creation of a bike store and a staircase into the existing front lightwell.

281 Goldhawk Road W12 8EU

2015/04244/FUL

Erection of a single storey rear extension at basement level; installation of a uPVC sash window in the side elevation at first floor levels and raise and replace existing window to side elevation at first floor level with new uPVC sash window; installation of a rooflight in the side rear roof slope; replace indented roof of upper ground floor to the side elevation with a flat roof.

138 Wandsworth Bridge Road SW6

2015/04250/FUL

Change of use of part of the ground floor level from retail (Class A1) into a one bedroom self-contained (Class C3).

99A Moore Park Road SW6

2015/04214/FUL

Erection of an additional floor and raising of the party walls at roof level. **FOR DEVELOPMENT WHICH MAY AFFECT THE SETTING OR CONTEXT OF A LISTED BUILDING**

5 Addison Bridge Place W14

2015/00002/FUL

Demolition of existing single storey studio building in the rear garden, excavation of the rear garden in connection with the erection of a three storey extension to use as living accommodation ancillary to the main dwelling house.

Anyone who wishes to make representations about these applications should do so by 10th October 2015. See below for ways of commenting on applications.

THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) ORDER 2013

NOTICES UNDER REGULATION 13

Flat A 35 Findon Road W12

2015/04238/FUL

I give notice that Mr John Coles is applying to HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM COUNCIL for planning permission to carry out the following development: Demolition of existing two storey residential property and the erection of a replacement two storey single family dwelling house.

58 Askew Crescent W12

2015/04148/FUL

I give notice that Mr Adam Heanen is applying to HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM COUNCIL for planning permission to carry out the following development: Conversion of the existing building comprising of 2no. maisonettes into 2no. single family dwelling houses; alterations to the side of the back addition including installation of metal steps and railings providing access to the house at upper ground level; excavation of the front garden and part of the parking area to the side of the back addition, enlarging the existing lightwells; external alterations to the fenestration of the building; erection of a bin store and cycle storage to the front garden; installation of a metal black painted sliding gate on the side boundary to provide secure vehicular access to the existing parking area; installation of a matching pedestrian access gate to the side boundary; and associated landscaping.

Anyone who wishes to make representations about these applications should do so by 10th October 2015. See below for ways of commenting on applications.

Signed: **NIGEL PALLACE**

Executive Director for Transport

and Technical Services

on behalf of HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM COUNCIL

You can view applications, make

comments and monitor their

progress on our website:

www.lbhf.gov.uk/planning. Click on

the 'Planning Online' logo on the

Planning Home Page. You can also

E-mail comments to:

plancomments@lbhf.gov.uk

You can also inspect details of

applications using computers at our

office **RECEPTION FIRST FLOOR**

HAMMERSMITH TOWN HALL

EXTENSION KING STREET W6

between 9.00am and 5.00pm,

Monday to Friday, excluding public

holidays.

If you want to make comments on

applications please E-mail them

through our website or post them to

DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT

SERVICE ENVIRONMENT

SERVICES DEPARTMENT TOWN

HALL KING STREET W6 9JU

by the date shown above. Please

include the application reference

number and the name of the

planning officer. We will try to

consider any representations

received after the date indicated but

this cannot be guaranteed so please

reply promptly. For initial enquiries

call our information and reception

service on **020 8753 1081 or 020**

8753 1082.



Send us your comments about planning applications via our website: www.lbhf.gov.uk/planning

LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 SECTION 14(1)

(BURLINGTON ROAD)

TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC

1. The Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham hereby gives notice that in order to facilitate gas mains repair works in the above named road, it made an Order the effect of which prohibits traffic in the above named road.
2. Whilst works are in progress, or whilst the authorised traffic signs are displayed, no person shall cause any vehicle to proceed, stop, wait, load or unload in a section of Burlington Road between it's junctions with Fulham Road and Rigault Road.
3. An alternative route for traffic in article 2 would be provided via Rigault Road, Landridge Road and Fulham Road.
4. Exemptions would be provided in the Order to permit reasonable access to premises, so far as it is practical without interference with the execution of the said work and for works vehicles, any vehicle being used in connection with police, fire or ambulance purposes and anything done with the permission or at the direction of a police constable in uniform.
5. The Order would come into operation on Monday, 28th September 2015 and would be valid for a maximum period of 18 months or until works are completed, whichever is the sooner.
6. Works would be expected to commence on Monday, 28th September 2015 and last for 5 days. The dates specified are for guidance and informative purposes only and works may extend outside these dates.

Dated this 14th day of September 2015.

Chris Bainbridge

Head of Transport Policy & Network Management

Transport & Technical Services

Meetings



The Friends Lecture Club

Gastroenterology with

Dr Marcus Harbord BSc MB PhD FRCP

The Lead Clinician of the Gastroenterology Department of Chelsea & Westminster Hospital and co-author of Emergencies in Gastroenterology and Hepatology, an Oxford University Press handbook. Dr Harbord will be delving into our gastroenterological journey, a fantastic and easily digestible talk.

Thursday 1st October 2015, 6pm Gleeson Lecture Theatre

Exploring Dementia with

Dr Richard Morgan MB BS; FRCP

Dr Richard Morgan is a Consultant Physician with a special interest in Dementia, and runs the Memory assessment Clinic at Chelsea & Westminster Hospital. He was Divisional Medical Director for Medicine and has a long standing interest in Post graduate Education. During this talk you will hear what can be done to identify this condition, how to delay its onset, progression and what the future offers.

Thursday 5th November 2015, 6pm Gleeson Lecture Theatre



The History of Aids by

Professor Brian Gazzard

Professor Gazzard started the HIV unit at the Chelsea and Westminster Hospital. He is currently its Clinical Research Director and the Chairman of the Expert Group Advising the Chief Medical Officer of Health on matters relating to HIV disease. Professor Gazzard will help us explore the fascinating history of aids and capture our minds for the evening.

Thursday 3rd December 2015, 6pm Gleeson Lecture Theatre

All talks are followed by refreshments in the Academic Atrium
Entrance fee: £10. All funds go towards The Friends charity for hospital grants.
Reserve your place now! (cash/cheque accepted on the door)

For further details contact The Friends Office:

T: 020 3315 8825 E: friends.office@chelwest.nhs.uk

Chelsea & Westminster Hospital, 369 Fulham Road, SW10 9NH



THE LONDON NAUTICAL SCHOOL

1915 - 2015 Celebrating 100 years of Nautical Education

Y6 Parents and their sons are cordially invited to attend our

OPEN EVENING/DAYS

for Prospective Y7 pupils in September 2016 on

Wednesday 30th September 2015 – 4.00-6.00pm

Friday 9th October 2015 – 9.15-10.45am

Wednesday 14th October – 2015 9.15-10.45am

- The London Nautical School is a GOOD school - OfSTED April 2015
- In 2015 85% of our year 11 students achieved a Grade A* to C GCSE in English, and 75% achieved a Grade A* to C in Mathematics
- Outstanding Sailing, Sporting and Extra-Curricular opportunities

61 Stamford Street, London SE1 9NA.

Tel: 020 7928 6801

(Admissions Ext. 245 - Miss Knight)

Please also see the school website www.lns.org.uk where you can find a copy of the school prospectus and admission policy.

WESTMINSTER ABBEY CHOIR SCHOOL

OPEN DAY

SATURDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER 2015



DOES YOUR 6 OR 7 YEAR-OLD SON LOVE SINGING?

WOULD HE LIKE TO BE A CHORISTER AT WESTMINSTER ABBEY?

COME AND VISIT THE ONLY SPECIALIST CHOIR SCHOOL IN THE UK.

The day includes:

- Tour of the School and Abbey
- Lunch
- Meeting James O'Donnell, Master of the Choristers
- Meeting Jonathan Milton, Headmaster
- Singing session with the Choristers
- Special seating at Evensong

Contact the school for details:

Telephone: 020 7654 4918
Email: headmaster@westminster-abbey.org
Address: Dean's Yard, London SW1P 3NY

www.westminster-abbey.org

WESTMINSTER ABBEY
Founded 960

Westminster City School

Open Evening

Thursday 24 September 5.00pm

Open Mornings

Saturday 26 September 10.00am

Thursday 1 October 9.30am

Friday 2 October 9.30am

Wednesday 7 October 9.30am

Thursday 8 October 9.30am

A high achieving boys secondary school in the heart of London. Attend one of our open events to find out how to apply for a Year 7 place starting in September 2016.



Phone 020 7963 6300 for more information or visit www.wcsch.com

55 Palace Street, London, SW1E 5HJ

Westminster City School

Where tradition and religious ethos merge with modern standards

Westminster City School is a boys comprehensive school for pupils aged 11-19 which provides an active learning environment for all pupils founded on a Christian ethos.

The school offers a broad curriculum, encourages independent learning and provides a rich extracurricular programme. The curriculum, which Ofsted say is outstanding, is designed to fast track the most able pupils to complete their GCSEs in Year 10 and begin A-levels in Year 11.

Exam results in recent years have been very successful with the school receiving national recognition for its pupils high achievement at GCSE. The national schools' membership organisation for improvement and collaboration (SSAT) identified the school's success using in-depth analysis of official Department for Education data on all state-funded schools in England.

Sue Williamson, Chief Executive of SSAT, said:

"Westminster City School should be congratulated for their exceptional achievement. They have proved themselves to be leading the field in improving GCSE outcomes for their pupils."

The school is in the top 20% for high attainment of non-selective schools and as such has qualified for two SSAT Educational Outcome Awards. The first is for progress made by pupils between Key Stage 2 results at primary school and GCSE results at age 16. The second is for value added progress which measures the amount of academic progress each pupil makes.

Mr James Wilson Headmaster, commented:

"These awards are a testament to the commitment and hard work of the pupils, teachers and leadership team at Westminster City School, and show what can be achieved when skilled teachers have high expectations and ambition for every young person. I am proud that this school is a member of the SSAT."

A Level results have also been very pleasing with many students going on to degree courses at highly respected Russell Group universities.

Headmaster James Wilson said:

"I am delighted with these outstanding A level results. Our students have secured places at Russell Group universities including Durham, Exeter, Edinburgh, Leeds and Manchester to study degree courses such as medicine, engineering, mathematics and politics."

The school's overall A level results for 2015 are as follows:

13% A*-A
44% A*-B
97% A*-E

The main building was opened in 1877 and the school was given its present name in 1890. In its long and rich history, the school has had particularly strong links with St Margaret's Church, Westminster Abbey. The school has kept pace with modern developments with approximately £15million spent on refurbishment and new buildings providing the school with wonderful learning facilities. Continued development of the site, in partnership with neighbours Land Securities during the regeneration of the Victoria area, will allow the school to continue to provide first class facilities for all its pupils in the heart of London.

Westminster City is a member of the United Westminster Schools & Grey Coat Hospital Foundations, which together operate some of the highest performing schools in the country. The school holds its church services at St Margaret's Church, Westminster Abbey at the end of every term, a privilege that affords our pupils the opportunity to celebrate achievement, reward endeavor and promote a sense of pride in the school. The annual awards ceremony is also held in College Gardens of the Abbey at the end of the summer term and is a fantastic evening for all the parents, pupils and staff.

Contact details

Westminster City School
55 Palace Street, London SW1E 5HJ, Tel: 020 7963 6300
www.wcsch.com



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We wish to appoint an Assistant to the Income Recovery Officer.

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Previous experience in a busy resident-led environment is preferred but not essential.

First class IT and data management skills, together with the ability to liaise with staff and public on your own initiative are essential.

The job description and application pack can be requested from the Estate Office can be downloaded from <http://www.watmos.org.uk/about-us/working-for-us/current-vacancies>

Closing date for applications 25th September 2015 at 12.00 noon

Ethelred TMO is seeking to achieve a workforce representative of our diverse society and welcomes applications from all sections of the community.



Chestnut Grove Academy

45 Chestnut Grove, Balham, London SW12 8JZ
Headteacher: Christian Kingsley MA, MSc, NPQH
Ofsted 2008 'an Outstanding school'

Required asap

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Term Time Only (39 weeks a year) – 30 hrs p.w.
Scale 1c Point 8, Actual salary: £12,208 p.a.

We are looking for enthusiastic and committed candidates to join our outstanding team of teaching assistants.

You will work to support students with a statement of special educational needs and who have a range of learning or behavioural challenges.

Experience of working with young people with ASD and BESD is desirable. You will need a positive attitude, excellent communication skills, the ability to work as part of a team, flexibility and a desire to make a difference.

Further information and an application pack is available from the school's website: www.chestnutgrove.wandsworth.sch.uk or by contacting Sheila Payen on 0208 673 8737.

CLOSING DATE: Friday 2nd October 2015 at noon.

ALL POSTS SUBJECT TO DBS CHECKS.

Chestnut Grove is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

www.chestnutgrove.wandsworth.sch.uk



BRUNSWICK PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL

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May 7pt 24-31 / £24,936-£30,525
36 hours per week

We are seeking a multi-talented, highly-skilled, enthusiastic and innovative Facilities Manager to join our team. In this key strategic role you will support the future development of the school undertaking all tasks necessary for effective site management with responsibility for managing the school premises budget and ensuring that the school sites are maintained in a safe, clean and secure condition.

To obtain an application pack please email businessmanager@brunswickpark.southwark.sch.uk or phone 020 7525 9033

Closing date for applications:
Monday 5th October 2015

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Orders are accepted by the Publishers subject to the Standard Conditions agreed between the Newspaper Society and the Institute of Practitioners in Advertising. Save that:

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- 'Classified' Advertisers offering goods or service of a business, commercial or trade nature will, at the discretion of the Publishers, be deemed 'Trade Advertisers', and as such, must include their names in advertisements. A telephone number is an optional addition to these requirements and not an alternative.
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 - (b) Any failure to publish an advertisement on the day / date or day / dates specified by the advertiser; or
 - (c) Any delay in forwarding or omission to forward replies to box numbers to the Advertiser.
- The Publishers will endeavour to publish advertisements on the day / date or day / dates specified by the Advertiser but insertion days / dates cannot be guaranteed.
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- Should the rate for advertisements be altered the price for remaining insertions shall be revised accordingly or the publishers shall have the right to cancel the unexpired portion of the order.
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- Account facilities are granted at the discretion of the Company.
- All accounts must be settled within the terms agreed by the Company and the Customer.
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- All queries must be notified, preferably in writing to the accounts department of the publisher within 7 days of the invoice date.
- All digital services are maintained in partnership with the publishers' hosting service providers. Every effort is made to ensure the continuity of these services, but some occasional technical downtime beyond the publishers control may occur. The publisher and its associated companies shall be under no liability if the production and distribution of web services is delayed or prevented by any cause beyond the control of the publisher.
- The Publisher may provide voucher copies for published advertisements in electronic form only subject to certain criteria. Further information is available on request.
- The copyright of advertisements produced wholly or partially by the Publishers belong to the Publishers. Advertisers may not reproduce such advertisements without the Publishers' consent.

Box Numbers
Boxes are open for the receipt of bona fide answers and are not available for distribution of trade canvassing matter. Original testimonials, goods, cash, cash stamps or payments of any kind must not be enclosed. A box Number and postal address are charged as part of the advertisement, i.e. Box No., centre address. There is no charge for forwarding replies.
Box numbers alone are not available for use in 'Trade' advertisements, other than Employment and Business Opportunities.

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All advertising must contain the name of the advertiser, phone number alone are not permitted.

Data Protection
The service you have requested may require us to carry out a credit search at a credit-referencing agency, which will record the fact that a search has been made. We may need to share your information with other lenders and credit reference agencies. However, we will only use the information from these searches to make credit-granting decisions and, if necessary, for fraud prevention or tracing debtors.
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Austin quickly into top gear

IF Charlie Austin is disappointed to be out of the top flight limelight, the QPR centre-forward is making a very good job of hiding it.

His header from Tjaronn Chery's right-wing corner earned R's a 1-1 draw at Hull, where Tigers were looking to extend their 100 per cent home record on Saturday.

QPR head coach Chris Ramsey said: "When you've got someone like Charlie, we're always going to have chances to come to tough places like this and get something."

"I thought he took his goal really well but it

was his overall performance that really pleased me.

"He worked tirelessly for the team with his endeavour and work-rate, as well as getting that precious goal for us."

It was Austin's fifth goal in eight league matches this season. Instead of sulking that no Premier League club forced QPR's hand to sell him in the summer, like a true pro he has got on with his job of



LOFTUS ROAD RANGERS REVIEW

With Tony McDonald

scoring goals.

How struggling Newcastle United, one of the top flight clubs linked with a possible summer signing of Austin, and who have managed just three goals and failed to win any of their six games under Steve McClaren, could do with him now.

But Austin's productivity at one end of the field is still being undermined by poor

ball into the box is so good."

The equaliser should have been an irrelevance, though, because QPR wasted a golden chance to take all three league points. Chery somehow failed to convert Matt Phillips' right-wing cross when he popped up unmarked at the far post in the closing moments. Instead of simply sidefooting the ball into the gaping net, he contrived to send his effort over the bar from just two yards out. It was a glaring miss but at least the attacking midfielder continues to get on the end of attacks and he should soon add to the three goals he already has since moving to Loftus Road.

Ramsey hailed "a good point" on Humberside following the midweek draw with Blackburn, which leaves Hoops in ninth place ahead of this Friday night's short trip to Fulham for the first west London derby of the campaign.

"It's been a tricky week for us and on another occasion, we're possibly sitting here with a greater points return but that's this league in a nutshell," he said.

"That's the way it goes, but it was good to respond with a positive performance and play – for the large part – in the way we did."

"I'm pleased we gave the fans who travelled to Hull something to shout about."

"I think they'll agree that we gave an improved display, and now we're looking forward to Fulham on Friday night."

FOOTBALL FIXTURES

Friday, September 25
FULHAM v QPR, 7.45
Saturday, September 26
Newcastle United v CHELSEA, 5.30
Tuesday, September 29
FC Porto v CHELSEA (Champions League), 7.45
FULHAM v Wolverhampton Wanderers, 7.45



■ CHARLIE Austin celebrating another goal
Pic: Rob Newell/Digital South Digital South

Continued from back page

"It's difficult to play against him, because he is really dangerous and maybe it makes the opposition a bit nervous. You have to ask them. I never played against him – and I'm glad about that!"

Of the other underperforming Chelsea players, Matic understandably refused to name or condemn them.

"I can only speak for myself," he said. "I feel better. But when you win, it's always better. What I see is that everyone is 100 per cent happy that we beat Arsenal and we will try to continue like this."

■ CHELSEA under-18s lost their first game of the season, 2-0, away to east London rivals West Ham United.

Hammers' defender Declan Rice opened the scoring. Chelsea goalkeeper Nathan Baxter kept his side in the game with a penalty save from Joe Powell but Idris Kanu popped up to score and seal victory.

Chelsea boss Joe Edwards said: "It was a real off-day for us. West Ham were fully deserving of their lead at half-time, because they punished us and then showed a lot of desire in the second half."

"It's a big learning curve for the boys. One of the things we've talked about in recent games has been our mentality and we were very good in that respect last week at Leicester. You need to compete with these teams who are in your face and show a lot of desire but we weren't quite there today."

"When you are off the pace and start sluggish against a team like that, then it's always hard to get back into the game. We got what we deserved but now we have to learn from it and bounce back next week."

LONDON WEEKLY NEWS

sport



County
Cricket



Final blow to Surrey

■ **DESPITE** the advantage of winning the toss and career-best limited overs bowling figures for Jade Dernbach, Surrey contrived to lose Saturday's Royal London One-Day Cup final to Gloucestershire by six runs.

Yet Surrey made the best possible start when skipper Gareth Batty elected to bowl in atmospheric morning conditions at Lord's, where 32 of the last 48 finals played over 50 overs have been won by the side batting second.

Their plans received a further early boost when Dernbach had Gloucestershire talisman Michael Klinger caught behind off the third ball of the match.

Rampant fast bowler Dernbach finished with superb figures of 6-35 and polished off the opposition with a hat-trick in the 47th over, albeit TV replays showed that his full toss delivery to remove last man David Payne was going down the leg side.

Gloucestershire had battled to 220 by then but it didn't look enough.

Even after losing openers Jason Roy and Steven Davies early on in the chase, Surrey were still in control on 143-2 as Kumar Sangakkara (60 runs) and Rory Burns (56) guided them through the middle overs, sharing a stand of 110. The Sri Lankan was finally dismissed when caught by substitute fielder Will Tavaré and his departure sparked a Surrey collapse.

Sam Curran (37) looked as if he might steer Surrey home but eight wickets went down for 71 runs.

All over

They went into the last over needing seven runs for victory. But 17-year-old Curran hit the first ball to long-on and it was all over two balls later when Batty found Jack Taylor at deep mid-wicket. Surrey were all out for 214 with three balls remaining.

Looking downcast after his team's sixth defeat in 11 Lord's finals, Batty said: "We maybe let them get too many runs and I believe we should have got 220. There is no particular department in the team to blame, we just got it wrong."

Surrey had only a few days to wallow in their disappointment before their final LV= County Championship game of the season against Northamptonshire, which was due to begin on Tuesday (22nd) of this week. Victory could bring them the second division title.

■ **A CROWD of 20,000 packed into the Kia Oval to enjoy the skills of some of the world's finest cricketers and raise nearly £300,000 for Help For Heroes.**

WINGER James Lo scored a hat-trick of tries as Hammersmith & Fulham welcomed Welwyn to London 2 North West division with a thumping defeat in Saturday's opening game of the new season.

Although the winger punched holes in the visitors' defence, it was Hammers' scrum which blew away the league newcomers. Unable to deal with the power of Hammers' front row, Welwyn were on the back foot from the beginning and the home side racked up a 61-22 score to open their campaign with a bonus-point win.

Good start

Head coach Dave Mannion said: "It's a good start to the season with our set-pieces particularly pleasing."

"But we probably left a couple of tries out there and it was disappointing to concede so many points. So, lots of positives but plenty to work on for next week."

Lo followed up an early try by scything through the defence yet

■ **ENGLAND call: All-rounder Zafar Ansari missed Surrey's cup final due to a dislocated thumb but hopes to recover in time to join the England squad as the third spinner to face Pakistan in three Tests in the UAE beginning on October 13.**
Pic: Rob Newell/Digital South



India skipper MS Dhoni smashed the winning runs for the Help For Heroes XI, who beat the Rest of the World XI by four wickets in last week's charity showpiece extravaganza.

As well as the hugely popular Indian pair of Dhoni and Virender Sehwag, the fans were thrilled by Mahela Jayawardene, Brendon McCullum, Matthew Hayden and former England captain Andrew Strauss, who rolled back the years with 26 off 17 balls – an innings that raised £4,000 by itself after a generous supporter sponsored him £1,000 per boundary.

Teams for the night were selected by England legend Alan Lamb and the sides managed by Michael Holding, David Gower, Sunil Gavaskar and Gary Kirsten.

Big-hitting Kiwi McCullum captained the Rest of the World XI and wore a GoPro for a large part of his time at the crease – watching from the other end as Jayawardene produced a master class in T20 batting.

LOCAL RUGBY UNION

again and putting fellow winger Huw Bowen in for a score.

Hammers continued to move the heavy Welwyn pack around with ball in hand but gave away too many penalties at the breakdown, and the away side hit back with a try from a driving maul.

Hammers responded with yet another try from Lo – burning two men to dot down under the posts – and could have secured his hat-trick before half-time if it hadn't been for a wayward pass from skipper James Smart.

Free-flowing rugby continued into the second half, with flanker Charlie Precious breaking from the kick-off to outpace Welwyn's full-back for a 50m dash to the line. Tony Bryant bagged himself a brace with strong running from set-piece moves and Hammers finished off a fine performance with its scrum rumbling over from five metres out.

H&F take on Tabard away this Saturday.

SPORT

Thursday, September 24th, 2015

● SPORTS DESK: 07711 169 427

Jose defends 'fantastic' Costa

JOSE Mourinho's robust defence of Diego Costa for his aggressive performance in Chelsea's 2-0 victory over Arsenal on Saturday was typical. "He was the man of the match," he said.

Chelsea's win blew away the malaise that had befallen the champions in recent weeks which saw them slip towards the bottom end of the Premier League.

Goals from Kurt Zouma and a deflected effort from Eden Hazard eased the pressure on Mourinho and the side, and they are buoyant going into Saturday's tricky encounter at Newcastle United.

First of all they have to overcome Walsall in the Capital One Cup. LWN Sport went to press ahead of the match on Wednesday night but Mourinho confirmed that Costa would not be playing in the third round cup tie and, instead, would be sitting at home, putting his feet up while on-loan Radamel Falcao seeks to earn his £120,000 a week salary.

● By LWN reporter **Paul Lagan**
sport@londonweeklynews.co.uk

Having dispatched Maccabi Tel Aviv 4-0 in the Champions League, Mourinho was delighted with the two wins in a row, Blues' first at Stamford Bridge this season.

"I saw some things back in the team," he said. "Some good qualities. But in the same way two defeats don't kill a team, I don't think two victories bring the team to the top. Let's go match after match and try to get a result in the next one."

But what was it that has turned around the team's fortunes so quickly?

Compact

"I liked that the team was compact," he said. "Everybody was defending. The attacking players made a fantastic contribution in that defensive work."

"In the early period against Arsenal, we lost some passes. We could feel, still, a little bit that our

confidence was not good. After that, we got back to our stability, we moved the ball well, had good positional play – these are things that I liked."

But it was the extraordinary performance of Diego

Costa that kept rearing its ugly head. Twice he put his hands up to the face of Arsenal centre-back Laurent Koscielny. Both times he escaped punishment from the officials, who, presumably, failed to see what 42,000 people in the ground and millions on TV saw.

He also chest-bumped Koscielny, who rather theatrically fell to the ground as if hit by an Exocet missile.

But it was Arsenal's Brazilian defender Gabriel that was found out and sent off for kicking out at Costa in a nasty, cynical attack.

The luck, that Mourinho suggested previously had eluded them, clearly was in abundance on Saturday and Costa was the main beneficiary.

"Is Costa a quiet and humble trainer, then?" Mourinho was asked.

Flashing a smile, the manager replied: "No, no, no, he trains like he plays. Fantastic."



■ **FIGHTING spirit:** Diego Costa battling in the 4-0 win against Maccabi Tel Aviv Pic: Rob Newell/Digital South



This week at STAMFORD BRIDGE

So should he not control his emotions on the pitch, then?

Mourinho, ever the contrarian, countered: "No, no, no. The opponents have to keep emotional control."

"Because to play against an attacking player that is aggressive, that goes to every ball, that fights for every ball, that is physical, it's difficult. We have lots of these players in this country and it's difficult to play against them."

"You know, when you work the way Costa did, his movement, his creation, he was fantastic."

"He is popular. It's normal that he's popular. He's a great guy, a great professional, he likes to win, likes to work. He is loved. Of course he's loved."

Mourinho's defence of Costa was expanded and took in other players who are of similar temperament, suggesting that if Costa is ever punished, then so should they be.

"It's difficult to play against Costa," he continued. "It's difficult to play against (Wayne) Rooney, (Christian) Benteke, (Luis) Suarez and Gonzalo Higuain. It's difficult to play against people with this aggression, players that want to score."

"If they lose the ball, they go to get it back, they want to press, want to defend, compete and go to every ball. But it's because of these players that football is what it is, because they create passion."

Prior to Saturday's win, Chelsea had gained just four league points from five matches, with a host of players underperforming, including Nemanja Matic.

The Serbia midfielder said: "It was a good win, especially against Arsenal because they are a great team. As you know, derbies are always special and we always have extra motivation. It was very important to win, because we haven't started the season very well and three points was very important for us."

"We played very well, we played as one on the pitch, we fought for every ball. We have to continue this way and I hope we understand that."

Mourinho had said that confidence had been hit, so had the three points restored the players' confidence?

"I think this is just the beginning," he said. "We started the season with confidence but when you lose some games, you lose confidence. But when you win games like this, it gives us more confidence. I think in the future this game will be seen as very important and the last one too, against Maccabi Tel Aviv. In these two games we scored six goals and didn't concede. That's very important for confidence and team spirit."

So how important is it to have a guy like Diego Costa who fights for the team?

"Everyone knows that Diego is a great player," he said. "He scored a lot of goals last season and he is very important for us. He is a great guy in the dressing room and on the pitch he fights for every ball. I think all the players like playing with him."

■ Continued on page 27



Focus on Craven Cottage

By TONY McDONALD

Goals galore is the Fulham way

FULHAM's inability to deal with high crosses into their penalty area, a problem that cost them too many goals last season, returned to haunt them again at Sheffield Wednesday on Saturday.

"Poor defending from set pieces and balls into our box has cost us today. We weren't good enough," bemoaned manager Kit Symons after Whites suffered a 3-2 defeat at Hillsborough.

Two corners and an inswinging free-kick – all from the right-hand side – caused chaos in the visiting defence.

A dipping long-range, left-foot volley from Jamie O'Hara and a late diving header from Tom Cairney, courtesy of an O'Hara cross, gave the final scoreline respectability. But, in truth, Wednesday would have been out of sight had they taken a succession of good chances.

"We certainly pushed really hard in the second half," said Symons. "I don't think too many people could have complained if we had come away with something out of the game but to give away three free headers... that cost us for the three goals."

Free headers

"And there were more than that as well. Andy Lonergan made a couple of really good saves for us from too many free headers. That side of our game wasn't good enough today."

While Lonergan pulled off a couple of smart saves to stop the floodgates opening, the fact that all three of Wednesday's goals resulted from headers inside the six-yard box suggests a less than commanding performance from the keeper. Owls' second goal went through his legs before entering the net.

While the back four struggled to cope under the aerial bombardment, questions also have to be asked of the wide players who didn't do enough to stifle the supply at source. Ross Wallace provided all three crosses for the goals and QPR winger Matt Phillips will be licking his lips at the prospect of delivering crosses aimed towards Charlie Austin in Friday's eagerly-awaited west London derby at Craven Cottage.

Symons continued: "I'm a little bit torn – I am very frustrated and very annoyed with the defending from set pieces, balls in the box, but then I'm also proud of the way that the players performed, especially in that second half."

"We need to start getting a couple of clean sheets in the league. With the players we've got, we're capable of being in the top six, so we need to start doing it."

"We will always score goals."

We've got no problem with that – we saw today, when we push forward we create great opportunities and we will score."

"It's tightening up that little bit defensively, which we are more than capable of doing. We've got some pretty big lads ourselves – physical players. We just need to do that man-to-man job a lot better than we did today."

Tricky to predict

Trying to predict the outcome of tomorrow night's live televised derby clash with QPR would be tricky. But what we can surely expect is goals galore.

Fulham's seven Championship games this season have produced 22, while Rangers' eight fixtures have yielded 27.

Whites have not kept a clean sheet in any of their matches, while Hoops have managed it just once.

Cue a 0-0 draw!